

100 more men for Army II strengthen BAOR

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at a cost of £20m a year, it was
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directors explains
the company became

It is thought to be not entirely
coincidental that the announce-
ment was made after the start of
the parliamentary recess. That
should spare the Government
some of the criticism it might
otherwise have expected from
its left wing.

A decision is also imminent
on the future size of the Army's
Gurkha Brigade. The number
of Gurkha battalions was to
have been reduced from five to
four as part of the Govern-
ment's defence cuts.

But that was dependent on
the Gurkha battalion's with-
drawal from Brunei, which,
under the terms of the recent
agreement with the Sultan of
Brunei, will not happen until
1983.

The Gurkhas are impatiently
awaiting a decision because all
five battalions have been run
down in size by about a hun-
dred men in preparation for the
threatened cut.

The 1,900 additional troops
announced in February are
being used partly to help sup-
port corps that have had to
find soldiers for headquarters
duties in Northern Ireland, and
partly to form an Infantry
Demonstration Battalion at the
School of Infantry at Warmin-
ster.

As a result of this year's
double increase, units should
find tours of duty in Northern
Ireland coming round less
often. That should have a
beneficial effect on the morale
of the disenchanted Service
families.

Recruiting figures issued last
night gave the size of the Army
on June 30 as 159,950. In addi-
tion, there are about 7,500
Gurkhas.

Between April and June the
Army recruited a total of 5,463
men and women, an increase
of 26 per cent over the cor-
responding period last year.

That was short of the Army's
requirement because targets
this year were higher than last
year. The same factor applies
to the other Services.

Our Political Staff writes: Mr
Frank Ailman, Labour MP for
Salford, East, and a member of
the party's national executive,
who is a leading opponent of
arms spending, said yesterday
that the £20m could be far
better spent.

Despite widespread unem-
ployment the Army had been
singularly unsuccessful in re-
cruiting soldiers for several
years. Many enlisted men were
trying to buy themselves out,
he added. It was doubtful
whether the Army would be any
more successful in attracting re-
cruits now.

"I cannot see the need for
these extra men in view of the
fact that the Army has greatly
increased expenditure on more
sophisticated weapons. Why do
they need more men?"

Mr Michael Heseltine, op-
position spokesman on the en-
vironment, said: "At last our
sleepy Defence Secretary has
heard the alarm bells which the
Conservative Party has been
ringing for the last four years."

It was no coincidence that the
decision had been announced
shortly before a general elec-
tion.

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A study in concentration at the amateur
national championships of the English Women's
Bowling Association at Leamington Spa, War-
wickshire, yesterday. Report page 10.

42 categories can use airport VIP lounge

By Ian Bradley
The British Airports Autho-
rity said yesterday that it
deeply regretted any inconve-
nience or embarrassment caused
to the former Archbishop of
Canterbury, Lord Ramsey of
Canterbury, last week when he
was refused use of one of the
VIP lounges at Heathrow air-
port, London, while on his way
to the funeral of Pope Paul VI.

In a letter to *The Times* yes-
terday Mr Patrick Montague
Smith, editor of *Debut*, said
the authority should apologise
to Lord Ramsey and the other
bishops in the Anglican delega-
tion and overhaul its list of
categories of people who qualify
for VIP treatment.

The authority said yesterday
that use of the lounges was
determined by the Government,
which provided a list of people
who could use VIP facilities at
British airports. The Govern-
ment had the sole authority to
book the lounges for important
travellers.

There are 42 categories of
people allowed to use VIP fac-
ilities at Heathrow. They include

the British and foreign royal
families, heads of state, am-
bassadors and senior ministers,
heads of armed services and
heads and senior officials of
international and European
agencies such as Nato, the IMF,
and the EC.

The only other British people
who are allowed to use the VIP
lounges at Heathrow are present
and former prime ministers, the
Speaker of the House of Com-
mons, present Cabinet minis-
ters, permanent secretaries of
government departments, the
Governor of the Bank of Eng-
land, leaders of political parties
represented in Parliament, the
Archbishop of Canterbury, the
Roman Catholic Archbishop of
Westminster, the Chief Rabbi,
the Lord Mayor of London and
the Chairman of the Greater
London Council.

The Bishop of London, Dr
Gerard Ellison, who represented
the Archbishop of Canterbury
at the funeral, said he did not
know who had applied for the
Archbishop's use of the
VIP lounge. *The Times* reported
Continued on page 2, col 3

Jail search for firearms

By Trevor Fishlock
Every cell and all the 1,140
prisoners in Brixton prison,
London, were closely searched
yesterday after reports that a
small automatic pistol had been
smuggled inside.

No visitors were allowed and
prisoners were confined to cells.
Two dogs trained to sniff out
firearms were used in the opera-
tion. The hunt was expected to
take two days to complete.

Among those detained in
Brixton are two Iraqis who have

been charged with killing
General Abdul Kazak al-Naif,
the former Prime Minister of
Iraq, who was shot on the steps
of his London hotel last month.

Also in the prison are two
men charged with conspiring to
murder the Iraqi Ambassador
to Britain, and members of a
gang charged with conspiracy to
commit explosions.

Brixton is the largest remand
prison in Britain and a steady
stream of visitors pass through
its gates.

British matador killed in gliding crash

From Harry Debellius
Madrid, Aug 15
Henry Higgins, the first
Briton ever to become a fully
fledged matador, was killed in
south-east Spain today in a
hang-gliding accident.

Mr Higgins, who retired from
the ring several years ago, was
visiting friends at the mountain-
top village of Mojocarr in the
coast. As he launched himself
in his glider rig from a low
hill facing the sea, he was
caught in a down-draught and
dashed against the rocks below.

Mr Higgins, a long-time
resident of Spain, was 34.
Obituary, page 14

Economy 'faces new stagnation'

The National Institute for Economic and Social
Research says in its latest review that Britain
faces "apparently intractable problems" in try-
ing to combine full employment with a satisfac-
tory balance of payments and a low inflation
rate. It says that the country could face renewed
economic stagnation. It forecasts price inflation
next year of 11.2 per cent, even without any
expansionary moves by the Government. Page 15

AUEW Chrysler move

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering
Workers wants the Government to take a stake
in any United Kingdom company set up as a
result of the takeover of Chrysler's European
operations by Peugeot-Citroen. Page 15

Port Elizabeth inquest

An inquest began in Port Elizabeth into the
death of Lungle Tabalaza, aged 28, who fell
from the fifth floor security police headquarters
there on July 10. Police are investigating the
death at Robben Island prison last Wednesday
of a black prisoner. Page 5

Vauxhall defies tribunal

Vauxhall Motors has decided to defy the
decision of an industrial tribunal that it should
reemploy a worker who was found asleep on
the night shift. Vauxhall's staff manager told
the tribunal that the man's return might cause
a strike. Page 3

Leader page 13

Letters: On the choice of the next
Pope, from Dr J. M. Funnis, and
others; on the disruption to hol-
iday flights, from Sir Henry
Theatre; and Mrs Patricia
Pennington.
Leading articles: The sliding
dollar; Germany's past; VIFs at
Heathrow.
Features, pages 5 and 12
Caroline Moorhead on the
disaster unit facing a disaster of
its own; Christopher B. M. Clarke
on Stonehenge.
Arts, page 6
Stanley Sadie on Lohengrin 10

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Overseas News 4, 5 Chess
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Archaeology 14 Court

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Engagements 14 Sport 10, 11
Features 5, 12 TV & Radio 6
Letters 13, 16 Theatres, etc

Gang steals £750,000 after faking road crash

A gang with a split-second
sense of timing yesterday stole
£750,000 in four minutes. They
staged a fake road accident,
with a bogus policeman, to seal
off a suburban road before run-
ning a Security Express van
and holding its guards at gun-
point.

The gang cut through the
van's armour plating with a
chain saw to reach the money
inside, then fled on foot to get-
away cars near by. In their
hurry they left £100,000 in the
van.

The robbery happened in Sut-
ton Lane, Banstead, Surrey, at
lunchtime when two cars were
hijacked near by and used to
block the road. The owners
were ordered to hand over their
valuables at gunpoint.

The gang then pretended
that the stolen cars had crashed.
They even had a person lying
in the road pretending to be
injured, said Mr David Gam-
an, an eyewitness.

The security van entered the
other end of the road a
man wearing a luminous jacket
and uniform bearing the words
"Police slow" stepped into the
street and prevented traffic
from entering the area.

The security van crashed into
the back of a Ford Granada
car which had overtaken and
braked hard in front of it. Then
the van was rammed from
behind by a small Ford van and
hemmed by another car.

The three security guards
were surrounded by the armed
raiders, wearing crash helmets
and masks. The van's radio was
put out of action by a shot and
the guards were held at gun-
point in the road.

The chain saw quickly cut an
18in square hole in the side of
the van. The gang grabbed 35
bags containing £750,000, but
overlooked another four con-
taining £180,000. They fled on
foot into woods and common
land bordering Sutton Lane and
were believed to have escaped
in three cars parked in the
district.

Last night detectives from
Scotland Yard's newly formed
central robbery squad, under
the leadership of Detective
Chief Superintendent James
Sewell, travelled to Banstead.

Mr Sewell said: "It was well
planned. There must have been
lots of eyewitnesses who were
delayed at the scene while the
raid was going on and we
applied for them to contact us."

Seaward, York said: "Motor-
ists must have thought there
was some sort of accident. Ob-
viously the thieves did not want
members of the public to see
what was going on. It was all
over in a few minutes, so, no-
body became suspicious."

The raid was similar to an-
other power-saw attack on a
security van last December in
Hertfordshire. Six armed men
sliced through quarter-inch
armour plate in four seconds
and stole £250,000 on that
occasion.

The saw, which was dumped
near the scene, had a 12-inch
wide carbonite wheel and was
operated by a pull-start petrol
motor. A man was later ar-
rested and jailed for the raid.

Briton shot dead

Ankara, Aug 15.—Mr Christo-
pher Dattner, a British-born
member of Swiss tour group
who was shot dead, apparently
by bandits, while camping in
Eastern Turkey, sources said.
He was 32.

Russian court sends dissident into five-year exile for book on punitive psychiatric treatment

Moscow, Aug 15.—Alexander
Podrabinek, who compiled a
dossier, alleging that political
critics of the Soviet state were
subjected to enforced psychia-
tric treatment, was today sen-
tenced to five years in exile,
according to friends. His dossier
was published in the West
under the title *Punitive Medi-*

cine. The sentence came at the end
of a one-day trial in Elektrostal,
an industrial town 40 miles east
of Moscow, barred to diplomats
and foreign correspondents.

Friends who telephoned from
the town said only Mr. Pod-
rabinek's father and step-
mother had been allowed into
the hearing by cordons of uni-
formed police and plainclothes
officials.

The friends said he had dis-
missed his Soviet lawyer, Mr.
Yevgeny Shulman, at the start
of the trial when the judge
refused to consider a request
to allow his British barrister,
Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, to take
part in the proceedings. Mr.
Blom-Cooper had earlier sought
a visa to come to the Soviet
Union for the trial but had
not been issued one.

According to the friends, Mr.
Podrabinek thanked Mr.
Shulman—who has defended
other Soviet dissidents—before
dismissing him and said he had
no doubt of the lawyer's ability
to conduct the case.

Mr Podrabinek, a medical



Alexander Podrabinek: de-
nied help of British barrister.

orderly aged 25, will serve his
exile sentence in a remote part
of Siberia or the Soviet north,
far from his population centres.
His 265-page dossier, pub-
lished in the West by Amnesty
International, played an impor-
tant part in bringing condem-
nation of the Soviet Union at
the world psychiatric confer-
ence in Honolulu last year.

Mr Podrabinek had formed
an investigative group, studying
what it alleged was the abuse
of psychiatry in the Soviet
Union for political purposes.

The young dissident was
closely associated with the
"Helsinki Group", which issued
documents and reports alleging
Soviet violations of the human
rights commitments included in
the final act of the 1975 Euro-
pean security conference in the
Finnish capital.

Leading members of the
group—Dr Yuri Orlov, Mr.
Alexander Ginzburg and Mr.
Anatoly Shkolnikov—as well
as others who formed similar
groups in several provincial
Soviet cities, have been tried
in recent months and given
heavy sentences in labour
camps.

Earlier this year Mr Pod-
rabinek told Western corre-
spondents that he had been
warned by KGB security police
investigators that he would
face jail himself if he did not
agree to give evidence against
Dr Orlov.

According to his account, he
refused and was arrested at the
beginning of Dr Orlov's trial,
at which the Helsinki Group
chairman was sentenced to
seven years in a labour camp
and five more in exile.

Punitive Medicine, described
in detail the cases of about 200
dissidents, who, it said, had
been subjected to enforced
psychiatric treatment. It listed
Soviet psychiatrists said to
have taken part in this treat-
ment.—Reuter.

Check shows plutonium in 3 women

By a Staff Reporter

Three women working at the
Atomic Weapons Research
Establishment at Aldermaston
have been withdrawn from
their normal work after a rou-
tine examination had disclosed
plutonium in their lungs.

The Ministry of Defence said
yesterday that they may have
up to twice the level recom-
mended by the International
Commission on Radiological
Protection.

The women work in the
laundry where clothing that
may have come into contact
with radioactive material, is
cleaned. The laundry has been
temporarily closed.

Other people working in the
laundry are said to have been
unaffected, but the equipment
and operating procedures are
being examined.

The ministry said that "at
the worst estimated levels it
would be most unlikely for
there to be any harmful
effects".

Five shot dead in riot at Rhodesian mine

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Aug 15

Police shot dead five African
miners and wounded five others,
four seriously, when they were
forced to open fire on a crowd
of striking workers at the Man-
gula mine, Rhodesia's largest
copper mine, about 100 miles
north-west of Salisbury, this
morning.

The strike, which has now
entered its second day, involves
the entire African work force
at the mine. It is believed the
African miners are striking be-
cause of dissatisfaction over recent pay
increases.

This afternoon the strikers
were addressed by a representa-
tive of the National Industrial
Council after which they dis-
persed quietly. There were no
incidents.

A police spokesman said that
at 3.30 am a crowd of about
1,700 strikers assembled at the
mine offices, many armed with
knobkerries (clubs), iron bars
and axes. They were kept away
from the mine office by
police barricade and although
no attempt was made to enter

the offices the strikers contin-
ually harassed and threatened
the police.

At 5.50 am, by which time the
crowd had swollen to about
3,000, the strikers were told to
disperse. They did not do so,
and tear gas was fired into the
crowd.

The crowd dispersed but re-
formed later and tried to break
through the police barricade.
Two policemen trying to make
arrests were pulled into the
crowd.

In order to rescue the two
officers, police fired into the
crowd, the spokesman said. Four
of the strikers were killed and
five injured. Six strikers in
possession of dangerous
weapons were arrested.

Officials at the mine, which
is owned by Messing Trans-
vaal Development Ltd, said the strike
appeared to be rooted in polit-
ical unrest caused by unem-
ployment in the area. The mine
is in an area reported to have
been infiltrated by guerrillas of
People's Revolutionary Army.

Meetings boycotted, page 5

Post Office work-to-rule ends

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

A settlement was reached
last night in the Post Office
engineers' dispute which has
disrupted telephone and mail
services for more than 10
months.

The National Executive Coun-
cil of the Post Office Engineer-
ing Union has agreed to call
off from this morning the over-
time ban and work to rule

This is in return for a pro-
visional peace formula, agreed
after two days of negotiations
with Post Office officials, that
the engineers' working week
will be cut from 40 to 37½
hours from December 1.

However, the refusal to bring
into service new exchanges and
extensions to existing ex-
changes introduced last Novem-
ber will stand until after a
special union conference has

ratified the agreement.

In addition to introducing a
shorter working week, the
agreement provides for no loss
of service to customers, no in-
crease in manpower and no loss
of output per man.

The Post Office said last
night that it welcomed the
union's decision. It added that
the formula "should be intro-
duced on a 'nil cost basis'". All
Continued on page 2, col 4

Grade gets £150,000 pay rise to compensate for increased US work

Appleby
ade, chairman and
ative of Associated
orporation, has been
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or earned income is

ide declined to esti-
his take-home pay
company's annual
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directors explains
the company became



Lord Grade: Pre-tax salary
of £210,428.

television networks, creating
even more work for him.

The board comments: "The
remuneration which is paid to
him by our American sub-
sidiaries is small viewed against
that paid to other leaders in
the American motion picture
and television industries."

Indeed, Lord Grade pointed
out that one ATV employee in
the United States earned more
than he did.

He added that last year he
made 13 trips to the United
States and would be making 24
this year. Tomorrow he is off
again to New York, followed by
visits to Seattle on Friday and
Honolulu on Saturday in con-
nection with the film *Bugs from
Brazil*.

Because of the wider spread
of interests the company is to
change its name to Associated
Communications Corporation,
but the television subsidiary
famous for *Crossroads* and *The
Muppet Show*, retains the name
ATV Network.

Lord Grade intends to con-
tinue earning his new salary.
He is 72 on Christmas Day and
he said yesterday he had set
his retirement date at July 29,
2001.

Mr Thorpe advised not to stand at election

HOME NEWS

Mr Thorpe should not stand as candidate, Lord Wade suggests

By Geoffrey Browning

Lord Wade, a senior Liberal in the Lords, made clear yesterday that he is gravely disturbed at the prospect of Mr Thorpe, a former Leader of the Liberal Party, standing as a Liberal candidate at the next election.

A chief whip from 1956 to 1962, Lord Wade, who is considered the elder statesman of the party, said in an article in *Liberal News*, that he had to disregard any feelings for personal friendship that might affect what he had to say. He agreed with Liberal MPs and officials, that there was no need for Mr Thorpe, who is charged with conspiracy to murder, to retire as an MP before the next general election.

"We are talking about adoption for the next election when it comes," he said. "There is in my view a clear convention under which, if a prospective candidate is being considered for adoption, the existence of a charge of a serious nature, and not at the time disposed of, should be treated as a bar to his candidature, however excellent the qualities of the candidate may be and however great the likelihood may be that the charges may be dismissed."

The situation rarely occurred, but when it did it was the clear duty of the chief whip, after such consultations as he saw fit to advise the prospective candidate and the constituency party that the best course would be for the

candidate to withdraw and for the constituency party to select another candidate.

Lord Wade said he once faced a similar situation when chief whip. The candidate withdrew and the constituency association accepted his advice.

"No two circumstances are ever alike, but if my view of this convention is right, it cannot be applied to one and not to others," he said. "Everyone must be treated alike in accordance with the convention, however distinguished the person involved may be."

The action of Mr Alan Bell, the present Liberal Chief Whip, had been absolutely correct, however distressing the experience, Lord Wade added. It accorded with the convention.

It does not imply any disloyalty to a distinguished colleague, or suggest that the charge is well founded.

Finally, after the chief whip has given his advice, the final decision must rest with the constituency party.

Lord Wade's comments echo what many people in the party have been saying privately. Visit to Gstaad: Mr and Mrs Thorpe, who are on a visit to Switzerland, travelled by train yesterday to Gstaad, the resort on the boundary between the Bernese and Valais Alps, and are expected to remain there until the end of the week for a rest, staying privately with friends (Alan McGregor reports from Geneva). They are expected to fly back to London from Geneva at the weekend.



A contrast in life-styles: Passengers in the departure lounge at Heathrow's Terminal 3 (left) and in Air India's Maharajah CIP lounge.

BAA says it regrets snub to prelate

Continued from Page 1

on Saturday that the application had been made several days before by a clergyman at Heathrow.

Last year there were 11,500 requests for the use of the five VIP lounges at Heathrow and they were used by about 50,000 people. They offer comfortably furnished meeting rooms, quiet sitting rooms, writing rooms,

lavatories and telephones. The facilities, and any refreshments provided, are paid for by the government department that has requested use of the lounge.

There are VIP lounges at all airports run by the authority, including Gatwick. Heathrow has a separate Royal Family lounge in a quiet area at the southern end of the airport. It is used only by royalty and heads of state.

There are regional variations in the list of people allowed to use airport VIP lounges. At Scottish airports they include the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Lord High Commissioner, the governors of Scottish banks, and the chair-

man of the regional council and provost of the city in whose boundary the airport is situated.

An official at Heathrow said that Mr Joshua Nkomo was allowed to use a VIP lounge there during a recent visit to Britain only because it had been booked by the Government for a Cabinet minister who was meeting him.

Film stars and pop singers were not allowed to use VIP lounges. But there were often given special facilities by individual airlines which maintain lounges for commercially important people (CIP) at the main airports.

Most big airlines have CIP lounges at Heathrow. British

Airways has two, the Monarch lounge in Terminal 3 and the executive lounge in Terminal 1. They are for the use only of first-class passengers and holders of executive business cards. The lounges offer comfortable seating, telephones, and free drinks and refreshment.

Air India, which is recognized as having one of the most lavish CIP lounges at the airport, said yesterday that it would have opened it to Lord Ramsey had he been travelling with Air India. An official said: "We use the lounge at our discretion for commercially important people and others we consider are important."

Alitalia, the airline that took Lord Ramsey and other mem-

bers of the Anglican delegation to Rome, has no CIP lounge at Heathrow. When the delegation arrived at the airport, they were taken to the office of the airline's station manager and given coffee.

Dr Elisao, said the delegation had been very well treated by Alitalia. "We were rather embarrassed when we were ushered out of the bus to the aircraft in front of everyone else and put in a special car," he said.

He was particularly complimentary about the facilities laid on at Rome airport for the many church leaders arriving for the Pope's funeral.

But he criticized the exclusion of most religious leaders

from the VIP lounges at Heathrow. "There are people of great distinction in the Church throughout the world who ought to be some preferential treatment when they arrive on visits to this country," he said.

An official at Church of England's administrative headquarters in London said that the exclusion of religious leaders from the VIP lounge was "a bit of a pity". "I suppose they want to be treated with the same respect as the other VIPs," he said. "But the principle is that the lounge is for the use of the Pope's funeral."

Leading article and p. 2

Poor-sighted driver of 88 escapes ban

A woman aged 88 was convicted of driving with defective eyesight yesterday but not banned from driving.

Magistrates at Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, were told that Mrs Margaret Seward, who farms 300 acres at Chelver Farm, Heythrop, would be cut off from the nearest postbox or shop five miles away.

She pleaded guilty to driving with defective eyesight and without due care and attention. She was fined £70.

Her saloon car was in collision with a Mini driven by Miss Pamela Carroll, aged 22. Mrs Seward failed to read a number plate until she was within 26ft of it. On the day of the accident, she said, she had not been wearing her glasses. A letter from her optician, which was read out in court, said her eyesight was good enough for driving as long as she was wearing glasses.

Five weeks on hunger strike

A prisoner at the Maze prison, Long Kesh, who is seeking a retrial, is on the thirty-fifth day of a hunger strike, it was disclosed.

The Northern Ireland Office confirmed that Mr William Callaghan, aged 20, from Strabane, had been taking only liquids.

Admission of arson by nurse

A nurse set fire to a room at the National Theatre in London and bound and gagged herself, alleging that she had been attacked, it was stated at the County Court yesterday.

Mrs Carole Anne Rigby, aged 30, a state registered nurse, of Seymour House, Tavistock Place, Camden, pleaded guilty to committing arson in the room at the medical centre while working at the theatre on May 13. She also admitted stealing a bottle of ether from the theatre on July 7.

It was stated that Mrs Rigby was found bound and gagged in a cubicle at the medical centre on July 8, and that she told a security officer a man had pushed her into the room and tied her up. Later, after discharging herself from hospital, she admitted having faked the attack.

In a statement read to the court, Mrs Rigby told the police that she had been emotionally distressed and had a mental breakdown five years ago.

She was remanded on bail until September 12 for medical, mental and psychiatric reports, with a condition that she resides at Maudsley Hospital, Camberwell, until then.

Bare poles

Twenty-five flags of all nations have been stolen from London's main promenade at Brighton.

New talks offer to French controllers

From Ian Murray

A new round of talks between ministry officials and union representatives of French air traffic controllers was conditionally offered today by M. Jean Le Theule, the Minister of Transport. The condition is that the men do not vote when they meet on Thursday, to continue their work-to-rule over the next weekend. Their present work-

to-rule is to end tomorrow.

M. Le Theule has promised that if that condition is met his officials will meet the representatives on Friday and Saturday to talk about the men's claims. He said there would be no discussion on the return of the right to strike, which is being demanded by the unions.

M. Gilles Rouge, for the communist CGT union, said that

Thursday's meeting would be to decide whether to continue the controllers' action. Any negotiations must include the right to strike, he said.

The holiday weekend traffic has been only slightly affected by the work-to-rule. In all 3,373 aircraft took off or landed at the two Paris airports during the period, 400 more than during the corresponding weekend last year.

Weekly strikes threatened on London Underground

By Donald MacIntyre

London Transport Underground passengers were yesterday threatened with weekly disruption of services from next month by unofficial strikes in protest at cuts in overtime and rest-day working, which are affecting pay.

A meeting of about three hundred operating staff demanded the one-day strikes yesterday. Last night a second meeting overwhelmingly backed the call for token stoppages every Thursday, starting on September 7.

The men are angry about cuts in earnings arising from a Greater London Council decision to provide London Transport's expenditure by £3m this year.

Mr Robert Kettle, secretary of the National Union of Railwaysmen's London Transport District Council, said he thought yesterday's meeting was representative of the views

of the union's five thousand members in operating grades. The grades include train crew, although London Transport said last night that the cuts had not affected drivers' earnings of up to about £115 a week.

London Transport is likely to hold further talks on the economy measures before the end of the month with officials of all three rail unions.

The CLC confirmed in the spring that it wanted London Transport to cut £3m from spending without affecting services. LT said last night that the effect on the earnings of station staff was only one of several.

Mr Kettle said the men at yesterday's meeting, who included members of the Transport and Salaried Staffs Association and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen hoped to close the Underground altogether for one day a week.

Speed limit 'averted a rail disaster'

A disaster was narrowly averted when a train carrying caustic soda was in collision with a goods train. A Department of Transport inquiry report discloses today.

The report says it was fortunate that the Poole to Liverpool passenger express, which would ordinarily have been travelling at 100 mph, was moving slowly because of a temporary speed restriction. The express was halted easily, clear of the accident near Warrington, Cheshire, when signals were switched to danger.

"Had no restriction been in force, the train would have been much nearer the accident, so that it is at least possible... that the train would have collided with the wreckage," the report says.

The crash, between a Freightliner train and a tank

wagon train, occurred three years ago. The tanker crew suffered minor injuries and the Freightliner guard's feet were burned when he walked through the spillage.

"Caustic soda liquor is one of the less dangerous hazardous substances carried by British Rail," the report says. "But, as shown by this accident, a high-speed collision with a passenger train could, without doubt, have resulted in a major disaster with high casualties both from the collision and from persons being burnt by the caustic soda."

Human error is blamed for the accident, which occurred when the tanker train ran out of control on a down gradient because only eight of the wagons were fitted with vacuum brakes instead of the whole train, as the driver had been led to suppose.

The tanker guard is blamed

for incorrectly completing the driver's slip showing that the train was fully fitted and had a maximum permitted speed of 60 mph.

The report adds that the tanker driver "must have some responsibility for the accident in that he failed to apply the train's brakes as soon as he should".

It says that supervisory staff at Polk Lane, Runcorn, failed in their duty as far as forming the tanker train was concerned. They had become "casual" in dealing with trains handed over to them by ICI.

Since the accident protective clothing and equipment had been provided for dealing with dangerous goods, and British Rail has agreed to examine all privately owned tank wagons to ensure that the maximum number of fully fitted air and vacuum brakes can be used on trains.

Tribunal rules favour of British Airways

An industrial tribunal in London has decided that a pilot unfairly dismissed by British Airways should be reinstated. The pilot, who was 55, was dismissed for redundancy after 10 years' service.

Captain Jack Richards, who had been a pilot since 1968, was dismissed after 10 years' service. He was 55 at the time and had been a pilot since 1968. He was dismissed after 10 years' service.

British Airways was told it should consider further offers of employment to the pilot. The tribunal said it had had the evidence of Captain Richards.

Study proposes a 'minister for marriage'

The Government is considering a report that recommends that it should appoint a minister for marriage.

The report, by a Home Office working party set up three years ago, suggests that the job should go to the Home Secretary or the Secretary of State for Social Services.

A Home Office official said yesterday: "One of the suggestions is the appointment of a minister for marriage, and the report is being considered now."

Publication of the working party's consultative document, *Marriage Matters*, is expected in October.

In the 1970s for every three weddings there is one divorce, according to figures published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

Dr Jacobus Dominian, a psychiatrist who heads the Marriage Research Centre at the Central Middlesex Hospital, London, said the idea was most imaginative. He added: "Marriage breakdowns and divorce are becoming an acute social problem."

Merseyside vote to raise fares

Merseyside County Council decided by 51 votes to 24 yesterday in the face of strong Labour opposition to seek approval from the North-West Traffic Commissioners to raise fares on buses, suburban trains and river ferries in October.

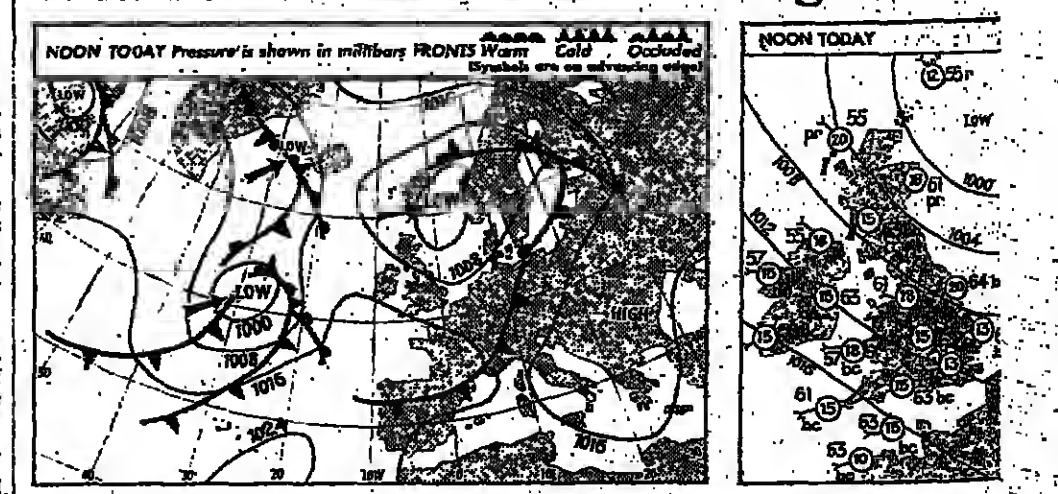
Mrs Jean Leech, Conservative chairman of the transport committee, said: "Increases would average about 12 per cent."

Belfast, North contenders

The Ulster Unionist Party will choose its candidate today for Belfast, North, to succeed Mr John Carson, the MP since February, 1974, who is standing down because of his health.

Known contenders are Mr William Bell, and Mr Cecil Walker, both Belfast city councillors. Two other possible contenders are Mr John Verry Walker and Mr William Morgan.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 5.47 am, Sun sets: 8.22 pm
Moon rises: 3.15 am, Moon sets: 6.51 pm
Full moon: August 18
Lighting up 1.32 pm to 5.19 am.
High water: London Bridge, 12.20 am, 6.56 am (21.3ft); 12.39 pm, 6.71 pm (21.8ft).
Low water: London Bridge, 11.70 am (23.5ft); 6.24 pm, 12.54 am (41.0ft).
Dover, 9.56 am, 6.20 pm (20.4ft); 10.22 am, 6.44 pm (21.0ft).
Hull, 4.43 am, 6.71 pm (22.0ft); 5.21 pm, 6.84 am (22.5ft).
Liverpool, 10.5 am, 8.6 pm (26.3ft); 10.33 pm, 9.11 am (29.9ft).

Central N. England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen: Rather cloudy with showers after a bright and mostly dry start. Wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp, 16° or 17°C (61° to 63°F).

Mersey, Firth of Clyde and NW Scotland: Rather cloudy with showers or longer outbreaks of rain. Wind NW, fresh to strong; max temp, 13° or 14°C (55° to 57°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Most places will be dry at first with sunny spells, but cloud and rain will return by evening. Rain, mostly in SE, but rather cool in NW.

Sea passages: S. North Sea, Strait of Dover, Irish Sea: Wind NW, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

English Channel (E), St. George's Channel, Wind NW, fresh or strong. Becoming moderate, sea moderate or rough.

Yesterday
London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 21°C (70°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 14°C (57°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 69 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, 0.05in. Wind, 24hr to 7 pm, 10 mph. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,006.7 millibars, steady, 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

30-day forecast
The Meteorological Office yesterday issued the following forecast for the next 30 days:
SW winds expected to be more frequent than usual. Although further cool and changeable spells

Nalco warning of extending social workers' strike

By Robert Parker

As strike action by social workers spread to the Tower Hamlets area of London yesterday the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO), to which the strikers belong, gave a warning that the action would become much more extensive unless the employers "see sense".

Nalco's emergency committee has approved strike action by Tower Hamlets social workers,

whose stoppage will begin on Monday, and also strikes at Southwark, in London, and Newcastle upon Tyne, where strikers started on Monday.

The social workers, who received a 10 per cent rise last month and who have rejected increased offers averaging £7, want to negotiate pay deals at local level. At present they are graded on a national basis through the National Joint Council for Administrative, Professional, Technical and

Clerical Staff in Local Government, the employers.

They want to be removed from their grading, but the national joint council argues that this would cause confusion. It wants to hold talks but at present that appears most unlikely. The council is to write to Nalco.

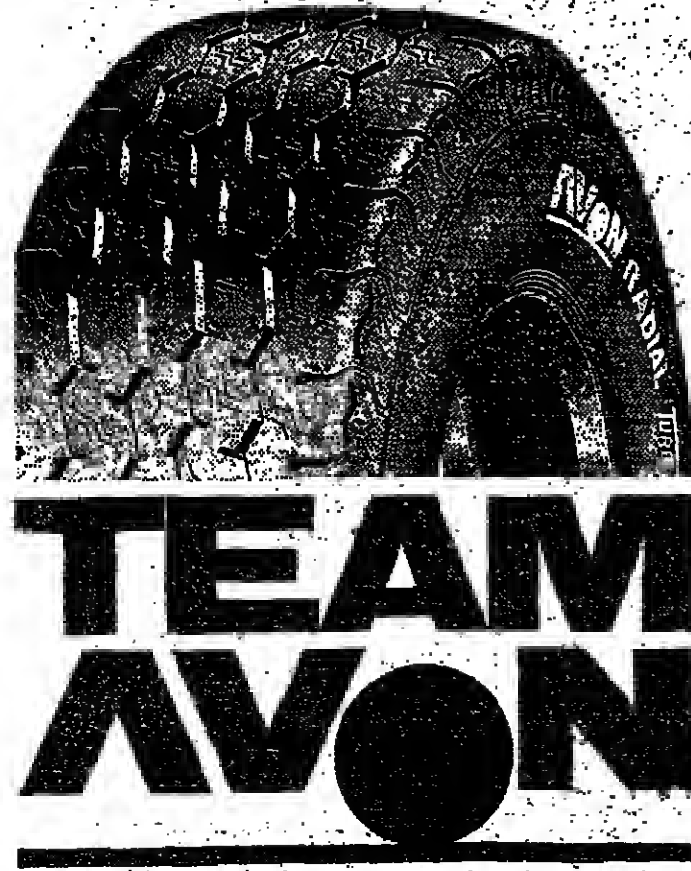
Nalco branches have been advised to ask their local authorities for separate negotiations. If that is refused, as it is expected to be, then industrial or strike action is likely.

"Unless the employers see sense and realise how just the social workers' claims are, the dispute is almost bound to spread", a Nalco official said.

Emergency aid talks: Nalco's national executive committee met in London yesterday to decide whether striking social workers should provide emergency services in Southwark (the Press Association reports). The Southwark social workers voted against an emergency service as it was felt it would weaken the effect of the strike.

TEAM WITH AVON RADIALS

TURBOSTEEL SR RADIAL
High-mileage steel tread radial with bold, efficient 5-ribbed tread pattern and water-channeling shoulder slots for safe, confident cornering in the wet as well as the dry. Available in SR (113 mph) fittings.



Lead in chess championship changes again

From a Chess Correspondent

The lead changed hands yet again in round eight of the Greater London Chess Championship when Jonathan Speelman beat the Welsh International, John Cooper.

The game was full of complications and Cooper appeared to be gaining some advantage but before the adjournment Speelman neatly avoided all trouble and gained a valuable victory.

Several of the games between the leaders were adjourned, so the situation at the top of the table remains obscure.

Results in round 8: Speelman 1, Cooper 0; Whitehead 0, Bell 1; Groom 0, Ward 1; Coles 0, Bell 1; Whitehead 0, Bell 1; Groom 0, Ward 1; Coles 0, Bell 1.

In the women's championship Sheila Jackson maintained her grip on the lead by beating Wanda Pritchard, and although he near rivals also won she remains a clear point in front.

Results in round 8: Jackson 1, Pritchard 0; Whitehead 0, Bell 1; Groom 0, Ward 1; Coles 0, Bell 1; Whitehead 0, Bell 1; Groom 0, Ward 1; Coles 0, Bell 1.

Adjusted games, round 8: Jackson 1, Pritchard 0; Whitehead 0, Bell 1; Groom 0, Ward 1; Coles 0, Bell 1; Whitehead 0, Bell 1; Groom 0, Ward 1; Coles 0, Bell 1.

Engineers end work to rule at Post Office

Continued from page 1

Payments on hourly rates of pay would continue to be assessed on the basis of one fortieth of basic pay, subject to review during the 1980 negotiations.

After 12 months of operation the agreement contains a provision to see if a further reduction in hours can be achieved. The basis for any future decrease in hours would relate to any savings achieved by the new formula.

The agreement was described by Mr Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, last night as a "major victory".

Remaining committed to their original target of a 35-hour week, the engineers gave more generous terms than those contained in the proposals drawn up by Lord McCarthy.

Accepted in principle both by the Post Office and the Government, this envisaged making the reduction to 37½ hours in two stages. The first would cut the working week by no more than 1½ hours.

The impact of the dispute continued to grow yesterday with 24-hour stoppages in South East London and in South East London and in South East London.

Selective action against strike institutions as the London Stock Exchange and the Foreign Exchange is being stopped.

WEST EUROPE

Mitterrand attack on guardian of the French constitution

From Jan Murray
Paris, Aug 15

With the left struggling to hold on to a marginal seat in a by-election on Sunday M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, has launched a bitter attack on the country's supreme guardian of the constitution, the Constitutional Council.

Speaking at a meeting in support of M. André Collard, the Socialist candidate in the Gers constituency, M. Mitterrand said of the council: "It is an organization we ought to get rid of. It was created more than a political tribunal."

M. Mitterrand's annoyance can be understood as it was the council which had made the by-election necessary by declaring M. Collard's election in March null and void because he had distributed political propaganda too late in the campaign for his rival to reply to it. M. Collard had a majority of only 980 votes. The total of votes cast was 53,362.

The council has invalidated other elections—two of opposition members and two of government members—including the one which returned M. Jean Jacques Servan-Schrieber, the Radical leader. But it refused to annul the election of one majority member who was proved to have mounted a loudspeaker car parade after the official closure of the campaign.

M. Mitterrand's annoyance with the council is not new. Two months ago he wrote in his party's news sheet that it was "a political institution with political jurisdiction, a political instrument of the executive."

The Constitutional Council cannot be questioned in its decisions on the matters referred to it, which include the legality of elections as well as the

legality of laws passed by Parliament. It can decide whether any breach of the terms or spirit of the constitution has occurred.

It has nine members, three appointed by the President of the Republic and the presidents of the Senate and the National Assembly appoint three each. Because of this it has been open to the criticism that its members are chosen from among the friends of the men in power.

Its current president, M. Roger Frey, was appointed by President Pompidou shortly before he died. One of the last appointments of M. Edgar Faure, when he was president of the Assembly, was M. Louis Joxe who had just before agreed to stand down from the seat he held in Lyons in favour of M. Raymond Barre, who was then looking for a constituency.

M. Mitterrand's annoyance and suspicions have been reinforced by the condemnation by M. Michel Debré, who, as Prime Minister under General de Gaulle, was one of the drafters of the constitution. The jurisdiction of the council was honourable, he said yesterday, and there could be no doubt of its political independence. "It can always make human errors, but the honour of all the members of the Constitutional Council has been preserved."

M. Jacques Blaise, the leader of the Republican Party, said that attacking the council was tantamount to attacking the constitution itself.

Despite the continuing problems of both the majority and opposition parties in agreeing between themselves, only one candidate from each side will contest the Gers by-election.

Blind 'Pope' crowned in Seville

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 15

While cardinals gathered in Rome to elect a successor to Pope Paul VI, the blind leader of a schismatic Spanish sect was today crowned "Pope" in Seville.

The coronation of Bishop Dominguez, founder of the Carmelite Order of the Holy Face, took place five days after a conclave at which the bishops of the sect decided that the time had come for his elevation to the papacy, in fulfilment of a prophecy which he had made. The sect, which has its headquarters at Palmar de Troya, near Seville, where four small girls are said to have had heavenly visions in 1968, it now has thousands of followers, its shrine, at a place where the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared, is visited regularly by busloads of worshippers.

The "Pope" of the break-away sect took the name of Gregory XVII. At the coronation ceremony, in a house surrounded by priests and faithful of the order with excommunication if they took part in religious ceremonies celebrated in any language other than Latin.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Seville has based clericalism of the sect from holding religious services at the shrine, but they consistently ignore the ban.

Protests at plan to cut down trees at airport

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, Aug 15

Environmental groups expressed alarm today at the news that a large number of trees around Gatow airport, will have to be cut down or trimmed to ensure the safety of aircraft.

A British spokesman, who contended plans to remove the trees for the safety of people living in the area. He said that only the necessary minimum of trees would be removed after negotiations with the West Berlin Senate.

The environmental group consider that Tempelhof airport, which is now little used, could handle large aircraft if it was no longer considered safe for them to use Gatow.

A spokesman for the Senate said that for the safety of the city, Tempelhof in the American sector, and Gatow in the British sector, all had to be ready for full use at any time.

Madrid plan to increase economic growth rate

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Aug 15

The Spanish Government is drawing up plans to reinvigorate the economy and hold wage increases down to 12 per cent or less next year, it was reported here today.

Señor Franco Fernández Ordóñez, the Finance Minister, favours a reorganization of the industrial sector and other measures to achieve a national economic growth rate of 4 per cent in 1979, according to the independent Madrid daily *El País*.

Speaking in the northern city of Oviedo, he confirmed that budget studies for the coming year include a 10 per cent increase in pay for civil servants. The figure is significant in that it represents an official estimate of how much more government employees will have to earn in order to keep up with

Last trip of writer pilot seen by boy

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Aug 15

Convincing evidence of how Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, the French writer and pioneer aviator died has just been published. He disappeared without trace while on a reconnaissance flight from Corsica in 1944.

It seems that a 16-year-old boy living in a hill village just inland from Antibes saw and noted his last moments. The boy, Claude Jaeger, now a French reserve officer living in Montauban, was watching the sky round about on the day Saint-Exupéry disappeared.

Suddenly he noticed a Lightning P38 with the tricolour of France and the stars of the United States Air Force on the wings which marked it as coming from Franco-American reconnaissance squadron based in Bastia of which Saint-Exupéry was a member.

The aircraft was flying very low and very fast. The boy estimated that it was at no more than 300ft and travelling at about 375 mph. Heavy anti-aircraft fire was going up at it from the battery at Saint Laurent du Var, near him.

He saw the aircraft heading straight out to sea, apparently unhit by the gun fire. Then it disappeared.

As a reconnaissance aircraft it would have had very little fuel left, so there was no explosion. It simply dove into the Mediterranean off Antibes and disappeared.

In his best-known book, *Le Petit Prince*, Saint-Exupéry wrote of a magical encounter with a small boy in the desert and how from him he learnt a new vision of the universe. He would like to have known that it was a boy who traced the end of his last flight.

Bathers stung by spider fish

Bilbao, Aug 15—Poisonous

spider fish have stung bathers on holiday beaches along Spain's northern Basque coast in the past few days.

The fish, also known as salvarium, squirt poisonous liquid from spikes on their heads to paralyze their victims. In treating the stings, swimmers swimming, acute pain and in extreme cases, death—Reuters.

More polio in Holland

The Hague, Aug 15—Two

new cases of poliomyelitis were reported in Holland today, bringing the number to 99.

expected increases in wages in private industry.

The Finance Minister said that a new "Moncloa pact" (a multi-party agreement on economic guidelines) will be negotiated for 1979. This time representatives of the Spanish Confederation of Management organizations will also sit at the negotiating table with the representatives of the main political parties and trade unions.

Management was excluded from direct representation the last time.

Under the Moncloa pact there was no effort to stimulate the economy, in spite of rising unemployment, for fear that to do so would wreck the anti-inflation campaign.

Señor Fernández Ordóñez said that a 4 per cent growth rate was necessary for next year because unemployment would reach dangerous levels, otherwise,

OVERSEAS

Middle East experts in US prepare for summit

From David Cross
Washington, Aug 15

Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, and his senior Middle East advisers were today closeted at a secluded country house in Virginia to prepare for next month's meeting at Camp David of President Carter, President Sadat of Egypt and Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

The State Department officials left yesterday for the consultations at the home of Mr Averell Harriman, the former ambassador, in Middleburg, far from Washington. They were due to return to the capital late today. They included Mr Alfred Atherton, the President's special Middle East envoy, and Mr Harold Saunders, the State Department head of Middle East affairs.

Today's discussions are designed to consider the various options likely to surface at the Camp David talks beginning on September 5. Mr Vance will want to discuss these with Mr Carter before the President leaves Washington for two weeks' holiday at the end of this week.

In an interview with the weekly magazine *US News and World Report*, published this week, Mr Carter went into considerable detail about the role he expects to play at the summit.

"If we see, between the positions of Egypt and Israel, some possibility of an acceptable compromise, we would certainly take that assessment to both President Begin and President Sadat and say: 'This is a possibility. Would you accept it?'" Mr Carter said.

To this extent, "I think we will be full partners in the discussion, although I want to emphasize that I am not a participant in the discussion. I am a witness to a successful conclusion of the agreement between Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat themselves. We will offer our good services as a mediator, as one who understands both perspectives."

The President also explained for the first time the administration's extreme reluctance to suggest such a meeting. "It was a decision that we approached with great caution because of the inherent political risks involved. If the summit should fail, then I would be associated personally—as the President of our country—with failure. The political consequences of that are obvious."

"But," Mr Carter continued, "I have no hesitations about the summit conference. The stakes are so great that I'm perfectly willing to risk adverse political consequences in the hope that we might make progress in establishing a framework for peace."

Jerusalem: Mr Begin said today that his Cabinet made its decision to postpone further settlement activity on the occupied West Bank because it wanted to promote a "psychologically good atmosphere" for the summit.

He said he had sent a message to Mr Vance clarifying the circumstances surrounding the proposed establishment of five new paramilitary settlements in the Jordan valley.

The ministerial committee on defence resolved on June 26 to establish the settlements, but because of the objections of Professor Yigal Yadin, the Deputy Prime Minister, the matter has to be passed by the full Cabinet.

After an outcry when the committee's decision was made known, the Cabinet decided yesterday to postpone making a decision until after Camp David.

Mr Begin said today that it was "the complete travesty of truth and justice" for anyone to say that the Israeli Government tried to torpedo the summit conference. "The defence committee move was made seven weeks before anyone dreamed of a summit, he said. The Cabinet decision has been greeted with widespread satisfaction here but there has been some criticism of the Government's handling of the issue. It has been seen as an illustration of the Cabinet's inability to make clear-cut decisions and to implement its decisions."

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Mr Alexander Dubcek, the former leader of Czechoslovakia, walking to his work in the Slovak Forestry Administration in Bratislava early this month. Next Sunday is the tenth anniversary of his overthrow by invading Russian tanks.

Lebanese troops 'redeployed' in face of Christians' fire

From Christopher Walker
Beirut, Aug 15

Attempts to restore the sovereignty of the Lebanese Government in the country's southern border region received another setback today with official confirmation that some of its 650 troops sent to the area two weeks ago had to make a tactical withdrawal as the result of continued shelling from Christian militias, which are supported by the Israelis.

The embarrassing disclosure was made public as Dr Selim Hoss, the Prime Minister, was on the second day of his official visit to Syria for talks with President Assad and his ministers. The dangerous state of security in Lebanon is known to have dominated the discussions.

Since being sent to the south on July 31 amid a fanfare of international publicity, the Lebanese battalion has been humiliated by being bogged down in the small town of Naikaba, some 2.5 miles from its intended destination, Tinnine, a town closer to the Israeli border where it should be joining a unit of United Nations troops.

To complete the journey to Tinnine, the troops have to pass through territory controlled by the Christians. Repeated shelling has so far prevented them from making any progress and one soldier has been killed and others wounded, international diplomats said.

The failure of the Lebanese unit to reach its objective has already had serious repercussions, which the United Nations troops should avoid. For two months the Christians have remained firmly in control of a six-mile-wide strip of border territory handed over to them by the retreating Israeli Army.

Lebanese politicians, including Mr Faud Buroos, the Foreign Minister, have been accusing the United States Administration of not exerting sufficient pressure on Israel. Mr Keith Beavan, the British press spokesman of Unifil, the

United Nations force, has been summoned back to United Nations headquarters in New York for consultations after a diplomatic storm had broken out over remarks he made to reporters last week. It is understood that Mr Beavan will be asked to prepare to fight to facilitate the Lebanese soldiers on their mission to restore Lebanese authority to all of Lebanon. His claim was hastily disowned by senior United Nations officials in New York.

Beirut, Aug 15.—Palestinian rescue teams for the second day today found human remains in the rubble of the building that housed offices of Palestinian guerrillas. They rescued a 10-year-old girl nearly 60 hours after the bomb attack.

Palestinian estimates of the death toll, which had mounting, ranged from 103 to 148. Police sources said that figures from the Palestinians, hospitals and other sources indicated that the toll was about 130.

A Palestinian official said that the rescued girl "was run over and killed, but not scratched on her head and she does not appear to be hurt. She had somehow fallen from the fourth floor but survived."

Damascus, Aug 15.—The Palestine Liberation Organization central council is to hold an emergency meeting here next week to explore ways of resolving the rift among moderate and radical guerrilla factions. Mr Khalid al-Fahum, its chairman, said today.—AP.

Turkey in better mood over lifting of US embargo

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, Aug 15

The decision taken yesterday by the United States joint congressional committee confirming the lifting of the American arms embargo left Turkey somewhat more optimistic today than it had been after the votes in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

A statement published in Ankara today by the Turkish Foreign Ministry said: "The report added to the text recording the decisions adopted by the two Houses clearly emphasizes that the embargo has, in effect, been lifted."

"Although having its decision mainly on the House of Representatives' text, the committee has brought certain modifications which partially improve the drawbacks inherent in the original decision."

Satisfaction was expressed that the committee mentioned the 1977 agreement between President Makarios of Cyprus and Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, as constituting "a strong basis for a just and peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem."

The ministry reiterated, however, a statement by Mr Bulent Ecevit, the Turkish Prime Minister, that there are contradictions and certain negative points in the American decision.

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Carter triumph with record foreign aid vote

From Frank Vogt
Washington, Aug 15

The United States House of Representatives has approved a record foreign aid Bill involving more than \$72,000m (£3,600m).

President Carter had asked for more than \$8,000m, but his plans had met with such broad initial opposition that the Bill now passed by the House represents a significant victory for his Administration.

There was a grave danger that the House would restrict the ways in which the World Bank and other international development organizations use their funds. The Administration argued that such restrictions would violate their charters, force them to leave United States funds and leave them crippled.

The Bill, which now goes to the Senate, authorizes more than \$2,600m in contributions to international institutions and there are no important restrictions on how the money may be used. The House did vote, however, to recommend that it should not be used to aid Vietnam and Cuba.

In a series of votes on clauses in the Bill the House voted to deny \$90m of aid to Syria, because of Syrian involvement in Lebanon; and it defeated efforts by opponents of the Panama canal treaties to end foreign aid to Panama.

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Peking prepares students to cope with exam failure

From David Bonaria
Hongkong, Aug 15

As Hongkong social workers are flooded with telephone calls from desperate teenagers who have failed their school certificate examinations, measures are being taken across the border in China to prevent similar reactions after the forthcoming university entrance examinations.

The Hongkong "Samaritans" have reported hundreds of calls from grief-stricken pupils, some of whom have not dared to go home for fear of what their parents will say. Others have threatened suicide.

In Peking, the authorities have called on parents not to promise their children material rewards or threaten them with punishment if they do not win university entrance at the impending examinations.

Propaganda work is being carried out to convince unsuccessful candidates that they will be just as useful in non-graduate jobs, and that they can anyway continue their studies through television, radio and correspondence courses.

Some six million secondary school students are expected to apply for university entrance this year, and it is unlikely that more than 2 per cent or so will be successful.

Education has traditionally been considered of paramount importance in Chinese society, having previously been almost the only way to a career giving power and social prestige.

The entourage of the Mao Tse-tung tried to play down the importance attached to formal studies and examinations, but renewed emphasis has been placed on academic standards by the new leadership, in the interests of faster technological progress.

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Houses and food are aims of new Sadat party

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, Aug 15

President Anwar Sadat today continued work with the provisional constituent committee in contact with the National Democratic Party (NDP) to finish drafting a programme. It would be referred to the people for endorsement, the President said last night.

The NDP has already attracted a large number of Egyptians who have applied for membership. The country's ruling Arab Socialist Party of Mr Mamduh Salem, the Prime Minister, has decided to merge with the NDP and many members of the People's Assembly have agreed to join the President's party.

Mr Sadat, who has been conducting a purge of his opponents in recent months, urged the 220 members of the party's constituent committee to keep in mind the masses to solve their problems. The people must be told all facts about the domestic and foreign situation, he said.

"Political parties are no longer cliques, assemblies of people's opinions. All over the world, political parties seek to realize security for both their countries and their fellowmen according to planned programmes."

President Sadat said his new party's aim was to associate with that of the National Party formed by the Egyptian leader, Mustafa Kamel, at the beginning of this century. The President said his party had two main goals: enough food for every Egyptian and a house for every family.

This is related to his ambition of a "green revolution", project to reclaim vast areas of desert to become farms, industrial areas and new towns.

Another new party is being formed by Mr Ibrahim Shukri, Land Reclamation Minister, who has resigned from Mr Salem's Arab Socialist Party to set up the Socialist Labour Party.

With these two new parties, Egypt will have four political groups: Mr Sadat's NDP, Mr Shukri's party, the Liberal Socialist Party, which is an existing Opposition, and the National Progressive Unionist Party, a leftist party which has been in limbo since Mr Sadat's crackdown on opponents.

There was a grave danger that the House would restrict the ways in which the World Bank and other international development organizations use their funds. The Administration argued that such restrictions would violate their charters, force them to leave United States funds and leave them crippled.

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RSEAS pty chairs t sbury isters

adrick Cleary
Aug 15
instional government's
uggle to win support
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Rhodesia at which
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was the reason for
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d were not controlled
n Smith, the Prime

Only handful of priests left after Nkomo men's threats Mission another tragic statistic of the war in Rhodesia

From Nicholas Ashford
Plumtree, Rhodesia, Aug 15
"Have you got a gun?"
Father Andrew Bausenwien
asked a French colleague and
myself when we arrived at Em-
pandeni mission after a 20-mile
drive along a dirt road south of
Plumtree, the last Rhodesian
before the Botswana
border. Our negative reply
caused some surprise. The last
journalist to visit the mission a
month ago undertook the jour-
ney with an armoured car
escort.
The situation was more tense
then. The nearby mission of
Embakwe had been attacked by
guerrillas belonging to Mr.
Joshua Nkomo's Zippa Army and
two missionaries killed. And
at Empandeni itself the mis-
sionaries had been threat-
ened with dire consequences if
they did not close down their
school and clinic.
The guerrillas' instructions
were obeyed. When the term
ended, the 600 primary and
secondary pupils were told the
school would not reopen after
the holidays. The clinic and
the home school were closed
shut and the mission farm's 300
cattle have been sold.
All that remains of a once
thriving mission is a handful of
black and white priests, mem-
bers of the Marianhill mis-
sionary congregation, who still
try to look after the spiritual
needs of the 3,000 black Catho-
lics living in the region.
Empandeni, set amidst the
dry scrub of Western Matabele-
land, now has the air of a ghost
town. The red brick buildings
which once housed up to 800
people are empty and bolted. A
10ft security fence has been
erected in front of the two-
storey building where the mis-
sionaries still live, the windows
covered with wire mesh in ward
of hand grenades.
Only on Sundays does activity
return to the mission when up
to 300 people attend Mass in
the handsome granite church
which was built three-quarters
of a century ago.

Empandeni has become an-
other tragic statistic of the
Rhodesian war, in the Plumtree
region, which is one of the
main Zippa infiltration routes
from Botswana. Mission
schools have been closed down.
So have most of the clinics and
the local stores.
North of Plumtree, where
Zippa groups are now concen-
trating their activities, rural bus
services have stopped because
of the danger of land mines or
guerrilla intimidation.
"There is no doubt in my
mind that the Zippa is the
complete disruption of all
forms of civil administration,"
said German-born Father
Andrew, who has served three
separate times at Empandeni
since he came to Rhodesia in
1933. "They seem to believe
that if we go on teaching we
are supporting the Smith
regime. So one way or another
we are being made to stop."
One of the black priests,
Father Plus Neube, produced a
map to illustrate what effect
Zippa tactics are having. Tega-
wani Methodist mission, north
of Plumtree, attacked two weeks
ago and now closed. St Paul's
mission at Lupane, once the
most beautiful rural hospital in
Matabeleland, ransacked and
now closed. The mission at
Fatima was visited nine times
by Zippa units before priests
there decided they could no
longer continue.
Empandeni was visited by a
Zippa band in April. Two armed
men lined up priests and nuns
and threatened them with
death if the school did not close.
One of the white missionaries,
Father Benoit Klotz, remonstrated
with them. Mr Nkomo had promised his forces
would not touch mission
stations. But the guerrillas
replied that Mr Nkomo was a
politician and they only took
orders from "their leaders".
The next day all the women
working at the mission returned
to their villages rather than face
retribution from the guerrillas.

Later the women who were still
attending homestead classes
were warned to stay away. Even
church attendance reflects the
presence of Zippa hands in the
region. "We know when they
are around because there are
fewer people at church," said
Father Neube.
The penalties for anyone
disobeying Zippa warnings are
harsh. One local tribeswoman
was publicly decapitated when
she failed to comply with their
demands. Father Neube was
told he would be "shredded"
if he continued visiting one of the nearby tribal
trust lands although he strug-
gled his shoulders and said that
perhaps the warning was not
seriously meant.
"I don't call these people
guerrillas, they are terrorists,"
said Father Andrew, whose
cousin, Bishop Schmitt, was
murdered in this region 15
months ago. "Some people
blame the Selous Scouts for
these acts of terrorism but that
is just propaganda."
Nevertheless, he and the other
missionaries admit that Mr
Nkomo's political education, the
Zimbabwe African People's
Union (Zapu), has almost total
support among the local popu-
lation. "The people do not sup-
port terror tactics because they
are the ones who have to suffer
most," said Father Neube. "But
there can be no doubt that
Nkomo has their moral sup-
port."
It is a paradoxical situation
which can only partly be ex-
plained by the tribal loyalties
of the Ndebele people. At the
same time, the activities of the
Rhodesian security forces,
scarcely seem designed to per-
suade the local population to
transfer their allegiance to the
multi-racial interim government.
The guerrillas receive a con-
tinuous flow of recruits, of
brutality and barbarism by
the security forces, particularly
by its African members. These
reports may or may not be true,
but the local population seem to
believe them.

Inquiry into death of black South African prisoner

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Aug 15
Police are investigating how
a young black, sentenced to
eight years imprisonment for
robbery, died on Robben
Island, South Africa's maximum
security prison to Table Bay,
off Cape Town.
A statement by the Prisons
Department said today that
Mputhe Johannes Matsobane,
aged 21, died in the prison hos-
pital last Wednesday. It was at
first said his death was from
natural causes but a medical
examination showed he died
from unnatural causes.
The police investigation was
nearly complete and the find-
ings would be sent to the senior
prosecutor to decide if an
inquest should be held, the
statement said. "According to
preliminary investigations it
seems that no prison members
were involved," it said.
Mputhe Matsobane, a high
school student from Vereem-
ing, was sent to Robben Island
to begin his eight-year sentence
for sabotage in June. After his
death last week police told his
parents he had suffered a heart
attack.
The Prisons Department state-
ment said he was admitted to
the prison hospital on August

4 because he was thought to be
mentally disabled. Four days
later he was examined by a
psychiatrist at a mainland hos-
pital who diagnosed probable
schizophrenia and prescribed
treatment. Matsobane was
taken back to the prison hos-
pital. Early next morning other
prisoners called a nurse.
The statement said: "Matsobane
was in need of emergency
treatment. This was given im-
mediately and included mouth-
to-mouth resuscitation. How-
ever, it was unsuccessful."
Meanwhile, in Johannesburg
early today, a shotgun was fired
twice through a sitting room
window at the home of Mrs
Helen Joseph, the veteran anti-
apartheid campaigner, who told
earlier this year spent two days
in jail rather than answer
security police questions.
Police are investigating. Mrs
Joseph has been a frequent
target of threats and intimidat-
ion since she became the first
person to be banned in South
Africa in 1962.
Last week, a shot fired by a
mystery gunman narrowly
missed the banned anti-lecturer
Harold Strachan when his wife
answered a knock on the door
of their Durban home.

Port Elizabeth inquest into detainee's fall

Port Elizabeth, Aug 15.—An
inquest opened today into the
death of a young black man
killed, according to police,
who leapt from a window at
security headquarters here last
month.
Lungile Tabalaza, aged 20,
fell five floors while he was
being questioned about possible
involvement in arson and the
use of bombs. He was the second
black to die in the last two
months.
A 17-year-old youth who was
arrested with Tabalaza said the
last he saw of Tabalaza was
when a policeman dragged him
away by the collar at the head-
quarters.
The public was cleared from
the court while the youth, not
named because he is a minor,
said he saw Tabalaza in tears
after one session of questioning
and that he himself had been
assaulted by a black policeman.
Captain Gideon Marais told
the inquest that he saw Tabalaza
being taken away in an ambu-
lance after his 64th fall and
that he was still alive.
When the inquest opened
crowds of blacks crowded into
the non-white benches in the
segregated courtroom, but later
spilled on to the almost deserted
white benches.—Reuter.

S Korea frees dissidents but not their leader

Seoul, Aug 15.—Twenty-two
South Korean dissidents were
freed from jail today under a
routine independence day
parole, but they did not include
the country's chief dissident.
The former presidential candi-
date Kim Dae Jung, who was
narrowly defeated by President
Park Chung Hee in the 1971
election, was still serving a five-
year term. Like those freed
today he was jailed by presi-
dential decree with 17 others
for issuing a statement in
March, 1976, calling on Park
to resign.
To move for rapproche-
ment, South Korea unilaterally
observed a truce in its radio
propaganda war with North
Korea, halting all accusations
against the North for the day.
Reuter.

British nurse in Thai jail rejects 'misguided' help

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, Aug 15
The Laois nurse serving
20 years in jail in Thailand for
attempted heroin smuggling
asked today to be left alone
by "misguided people in
England". Miss Rita Nightingale,
of Blackburn, said in an
interview with The Times at
the women's prison here that
she feared the activities of such
people would lengthen her stay
in prison.
"I appreciate what people
in England are trying to do for
me," she said, "but I wish they
would help in the right way.
Of course I will cooperate in
any way I can. That's why I
said I would be ready to stand
for Parliament if sensible
people really think I could
do some good, but honestly I

think the idea is ridiculous."
Miss Nightingale said demon-
strations against Thailand in
Britain, boycotts of Thai
goods might reduce her chance
of a royal pardon and interfere
with her eligibility for amnes-
ties, which are granted regu-
larly to prisoners and can
reduce long sentences by as
much as a third.
She denied reports that she
had been beaten in prison.
"Nothing like that has ever
happened to me," she said.
Mrs Sylvia Ward, a German-
born prisoner, said: "No
foreigner has ever been
beaten in the four and a half
years I have been here." She
was sentenced to life imprison-
ment for heroin trafficking but
expects to be out in five more
years because of amnesties.

xed reasons for Chinese exodus

Thailand, Aug 15
Chinese who, reccolly
from Vietnam and
sire way to a refugee
r Vietnamese boat
ere are saying, con-
allegations by Peking,
did not believe that
Government was tak-
riminatory measures
e Chinese minority in
y said, in a series of
here, that the
Hanoi is taking
ivate business—even
manufacturers and
were striking hard at
of Cholon, the focal
Chinese life in Viet-
the country's principal
and manufacturing
China asserting that
ethnic Chinese have
a Vietnam in recent
s a result of Vietnam-
ism, persecution and
the question of why
ionally staunchly anti-
inese in Cholon would
join the exodus has
e to speculation.

The answer, according to re-
fugee families, lies principally in
the attrition of their traditional
ways of earning a living. There
is also a minor circulating
among the Chinese community
the refugees said, that legal
emigration to a Western country
is feasible from China.
Those who own fishing boats
or have money to buy passage
on one—as well as the bribes
necessary to get false papers to
reach the sea coast from Cholon
—come here, Mr Duong Co
Thai, a former economics stu-
dent, said. He might be
tempted to go to China.
A number of recent refugees
said that their fellow Chinese
in Vietnam were thinking of
going to China for mainly
nationalistic reasons. The ar-
rivals they described as: "If I
have to live in a communist
country, it might as well be my
own."
"I always consider China my
native country," Mr Tran Ngoc
Thanh said. He is 27 years old
and served to the South Viet-
namese Army for six years.
Although he was born in Viet-
nam and has never been to

Shah announces amnesty to ease tension

Teheran, Aug 15.—The Shah
of Iran today announced two
measures to ease tension as
troops were called out to deal
with continuing demonstrations
in parts of the capital.
To mark the twenty-fifth
anniversary of the fall of Dr
Muhammad Mossadegh, the
former Prime Minister, he
announced an amnesty for 62
political detainees and 649
other prisoners.
Perhaps more importantly, in
view of the religious origins
attributed to the present dis-
turbances, he ordered the
arrest of Mr Hojatzadeh, whose
religious group has been the
target of dozens of attacks
by demonstrators.
Disturbances by conservative
Muslim groups continued today
in Khorramabad, where three
deaths were reported, and in
Khorramshahr. The Muslims
are demanding the enforcement
of religious rules against
alcohol, films and equal rights
for women.—Agence France-
Presse and AP.

Guest Column

"What a change this is from the usual
subtle study of national character by a
cultivated foreign observer, who thinks
England is a big middle-class and gen-
erally conforming country. With these an-
thropological spies among us one wonders how
statesmen and journalists will ever again
dare to speak and write on behalf of 'the
people'. For here are 'the people'."
That is what reviewer wrote in The
Times about a Penguin book called Britain,
published in January, 1939. It was written
by Charles Madge and Tom Harrison and
based on surveys made by Mass-Observa-
tion in 1938. The year of the Act requiring
holidays with pay, of fluorescent lighting,
nylon, George Buro's ball-point pen, the
living coalscamph, the foundation of the
WVS, the year in which Brighton Rock,
Maurice and the Kilnsey Dories were
first published, and Charlie Chaplin ap-
peared in Modern Times. And 1938 also
remained in the mind for a long time
as the last year in which life was normal.
Yet in 1938 civilians were issued with
gas masks. A chapter called Crisis, dealing
with the impact of European politics,
forms one third of the book. Throughout
the year the Mass-Observers continued to
sample opinion by means of the direct
question. One must agree that they could
claim to know what the British people
were thinking—they had asked them. After
the latest survey, in October, Madge and
Harrison wrote: "This once again con-
firms the previously made point that a
majority of men are strongly anti-Cham-
berlain, while the women are for him
because they are for peace at any price."
The chapter contains quotations from
the comments of nearly 200 people,
designated as Insurance official, 44;
Textile warp-twister, 33; Science teacher,
female, 24, etc., as well as from "over-
seers": "Praise be to God and to Mr
Chamberlain I find no sacrifice, no
bathos, in coupling these two names,"
(Godfrey Wina) and "Mrs Chamberlain,
at the very moment that her husband was
soaring through the clouds, was kneeling
at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in
France. This is one of the pictures that
makes history beautiful." (Beverly Nichols).
A point which the authors stress even
more than the importance of finding what
people think is the value of knowledge
about society and the dearth of it in
1938. Here one may see the mood of a
humble student, shared it—from which
the growth of the study of sociology

The last year in which life was normal

This week's guest column
is by
D. L. B. Hartley

began—I had just started to read history
but already wished ardently that I was
reading sociology under Morris Ginsberg.
What could be more illuminating
to study society itself? We were fore-
armed against the scoffers. People said
they already knew about society. But how
many things had people "known" which
weren't just so? And Bertrand Russell had
told us that people struggle not to learn
the truth but to retain their beliefs. Madge
and Harrison make their point in a critical
examination of the British Association's
1938 meeting in Cambridge. "Sociology
especially has been the lowliest of Social
Psychology."
Mass-Observation tried to supply facts.
A weakness in some projects was that the
data we were offered depended not upon
observation but upon what people said
about themselves. The material remains
interesting and suggestive. In one survey
the question was asked, "If you had to
economize, what would go first?" Social
classes were designated A-D. Easily top of
the list in the answers of A, with 27 per
cent, and B with 15 per cent, came the car.
The next suggestions from C with 10 per
cent each were visits to the cinema and
wireless-gramophone. People in group D
thought they would economize on visits
to the cinema (15 per cent), food (15 per
cent) and smoking (10 per cent).
I na chapter entitled Castles in the Air?
the authors wrote: "Through all our re-
search results the interest in oneself and
one's home has predominated far and
away over international and general politi-
cal concerns, except in the upper middle
class." Later: "It is immediately practi-
cable to define many basic British mental
and social needs in the same sort of way
as Sir John Orr and the British Medical
Association have defined basic nutritional
needs." Then as though to illustrate this,
in a project "to Worktown" people were
asked to vote on which of 10 factors they
considered the most conducive to their
happiness for themselves. The represen-
tative sample gave this result: Security

129, Knowledge 118, Religion 104, Humour
80, Equality 79, Beauty 34, Action 23,
Pleasure 10, Leadership 8, Politics 2.
Health, sex and marriage were not in
the list nor were they, as far as we can
tell from the report, suggested in the re-
plies. Sex and marriage are mentioned
only very indirectly in the whole book.
The authors do rather go on, and on,
about the Lambeth Walk: with 45 pages it
occupies nearly a fifth of the book. An
attempt was made to find origins of the
dance in South London. One observer
came across a name that was to be used
for a pop dance in the nineteenth century.
"A chap of 55 standing on one of the
corners of Lambeth Walk told an obser-
ver 'What they used to do was called the
twist'."
In August, 1938, the LCC first
organized open air dancing in the parks.
The success of this was largely due to
the popularity of the Lambeth Walk.
Homosexual activity was illegal and the
subject was taboo, but we read in the
middle of one report: "There are
several meo couples and some walk for-
ward hand in hand." At Highbury Fields,
Islington, on August 11, the crowds
totalled 20,000 and the official arrange-
ments broke down under the strain.
Also in the book are the results of a
survey of people's attitudes to astrology
("Newspaper astrology has grown up
almost entirely in recent years") and an
account of the new, popular spectator
sport of all-in wrestling.
One of the main reports concerns the
two minutes silence of Armistice Day.
"When M-O decided to make a survey of
the Silence it was without any pre-
conceived ideas about it. One thousand
observers were simply asked to describe
exactly what happened to them between
10.30 and 11.30 on the morning of
November 11, 1937." (Presumably a
report on Armistice Day 1938 would have
been too late for inclusion in the book.)
The year in which the silence was
broken by the shouts of an ex-serviceman
in Whitehall, 1937, he was heard by the
millions of people who were listening to
the broadcast service.
The thousand reports revealed a wide-
spread feeling that the ceremony was
out-of-date and should be stopped. But a
few months after the book was published
another war started; it brought much
more to remember, and marked the end
of an era.
© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1978.

Which should come first—the individual or the group?

Japan has one of the lowest adult illiteracy
rates in the world (0.7 per cent compared
with an estimated 1 per cent in Britain).
Its crime rate is also one of the lowest in
the world and, unlike that in most Western
nations, is actually falling. There were 1.1
crimes per 100 people in Japan in 1975,
down from 1.7 20 years earlier. In Britain
last year there were five indictable
offences per 100 people, four times higher
than the rate 30 years ago.
Vandalism, juvenile delinquency, and
drug or alcohol abuse among the young
does not appear to be a problem in Japan.
Perhaps that is partly because most teen-
agers are too busy studying: more than
two-thirds of the 15-19-year-olds choose
to stay on voluntarily in school, and more
than a third then go on into full-time
higher education. That compares with less
than a third of 16-year-olds in Britain who
remain in school or college and a fifth of
18-year-olds who continue in full-time
further or higher education.
The low level of unemployment in Japan
(2.3 per cent compared with Britain's 5.6
per cent) also doubtless helps keep down
the crime rate. School leavers are, if any-
thing, favoured in the job market on
account of Japan's seniority system under
which workers are given automatic salary
increases for length of service. A young
recruit on a relatively low salary is there-
fore an attractive commodity.
But more than any other factor, the
strong group ethic inherent in Japanese
society, which is inculcated in the child
from the moment he starts school, seems
to be responsible for the low level of
juvenile delinquency. All schoolchildren
must take at least one period a week of
"moral education", even when they are
in upper secondary school, the Japanese
equivalent to our sixth form.
Moral education consists not only in
teaching about such basic universal prin-
ciples as honesty, tolerance, courage,
unselfishness, but also in learning to obey
rules willingly, to protect public property
and morality, to think highly of group
harmony and discipline, to love the
Japanese nation and respect its laws, to
lead temperate, well-balanced lives, and to
keep oneself neat and tidy and to behave
with good manners and the correct social
etiquette.
Detailed specifications for the moral
education programme to be followed in all
schools, together with the required course
of study for each age group in all other
subjects of the curriculum, are laid down
by the Government in three large volumes
covering elementary schools (226 pages),
lower secondary schools (250 pages) and
upper secondary schools (420 pages).
Not only does the Government specify
which subjects should be studied, it also
lays down the minimum number of hours
less time required for each subject. All
pupils from the age of six to 15 must take
at least five periods of Japanese language
a week, four periods of mathematics (six
for elementary schoolchildren), four
science, two music, two art, two home-
economics or crafts, three physical educa-
tion, and one moral education. In
addition, all secondary level pupils are
required to take at least three periods a
week of a foreign language, usually
English.



All textbooks used in Japanese schools
must first be approved by the government.
In Britain, there is only one compulsory
subject, religious education, and no
censorship of textbooks. Ours is an
almost wholly decentralized system of
education, allowing wide scope—some-
times say much too wide—for innovation
by local authorities, schools and even
individual teachers. While some critics
complain that the standards in British
schools, most believe that its great strength lies in the
very variety generated by the present
system.
What common pattern is visible in
British schools comes from our system of
public examinations. In Japan there are
no public examinations. The 47 prefectures
(units of local government) set their
own entrance examinations for admission
to lower secondary and upper secondary

schools, and each university sets its own
separate entrance examination.
To British eyes the Japanese system
appears to be incredibly conformist. The
group of 10 British teachers I
accompanied on a two-week tour of
Japanese schools last month, while highly
impressed by the modern teaching aids in
Japan's schools, all commented on the
"talk and chalk" methods of teaching
with 40-50 children in each class even in
the upper secondary schools, sitting in
neatly arranged rows, all usually wearing
blue-and-white sailor-type uniforms, and
all the girls with the regulation bobbed
hair-cut and not a trace of makeup.
Headmasters (there are only very few
headmistresses) say they have few
disciplinary problems with pupils. Where
they do, the child is usually simply given
a private ticking-off, or called in for an
interview with his parents. Cooperation
between parents and teachers is excellent,
teacher associations thrive, meeting at
least once a month and frequently more
often. Corporal punishment is prohibited.
Most schools have a student council,
elected by the pupils, which runs various
pupil committees including a school
environment committee, which is res-
ponsible for keeping classrooms, corridors
and the playing fields clean and tidy;
and a disciplinary committee which helps
ensure that pupils are not late for class,
that they are neatly dressed, that they
obey school rules, etc.
Most Englishmen would probably
recoil against such group consciousness
and apparent suppression of individuality.
But are we right to do so? The children
we saw gave no indication of being re-
pressed. They were bright, happy, sponta-
neous, relaxed, outgoing, a delight to be
with. The art work of children aged 12-15
that I saw in a school near Hiroshima was

excellent, revealing a high degree of
originality and imagination.
The government says that it is con-
cerned about the lack of emphasis placed
on creativity in schools. Six years ago, the
Central Council for Education, an ad-
visory body appointed by the government,
said in its report on proposed reforms in
the Japanese education system that the
present "cramping system" operated in
Japanese schools was a hangover from the
days when the nation was endeavouring to
absorb Western knowledge and techniques.
The school system has so far done
little to encourage creativity emphasizing
instead learning by rote, technical training
and passing exams. An education system
that encourages creativity must build the
opportunity to think creatively into its
curriculum. It must encourage pupils to
search freely for different solutions to
problems," the committee said. Little
seems to have changed in the past six
years.
Professor Michio Nagai, former Minister
of Education, said in an interview with The
Times: "The Japanese excel in recita-
tion and memorization. Now we need to
develop comprehension, creativity and an
ability to analyse critically." Professor
Nagai added that in his view the Japanese
before the Second World War were far
more individualistic than now.
But perhaps we should not be too quick
in condemning a society that is based on a
different hierarchy of values from our
own. The standard of living in Japan is
high. The streets are clean and free from
violence. The people are hardworking,
impeccably mannered and appear to be
happy. Business is booming. We have
chosen to place the individual above the
group, but at what cost?
Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Greene Greene

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lingual Secretary to M.D. W. London

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20's
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The successful applicant will be a crucial member of a small senior executive team. He or she will be in charge of a growing team of sales clerks responsible for sales liaison, control of ticket distribution, maintenance of outlet records and the provision of management information.

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Please apply in confidence with full c.v. and details of present salary to The Chief Accountant, Corin International Inc., 11 Connaught Place, London W2 2ET.

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Please phone in the first instance to: Miss Ireland 01-828 6525

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The General Manager of a major newspaper, magazine and printing group is looking for a Secretary/Personal Assistant. The work will cover the basic secretarial duties for which a high standard is expected (shorthand not essential). A little common sense is needed to maintain some statistics and the initiative and enthusiasm to assist the General Manager wherever possible. Personal qualities call for diplomacy in dealing with people and with the confidential nature of the General Manager's work. It is likely that the successful applicant will have several years' experience of working at this senior level. Please apply in writing today with a c.v. and a daytime telephone number, or telephone: Miss Susan Harrison, United Newspapers Publications Limited, 23-27, Tudor Street, London EC4A 3DF; telephone: 01-583 9199 Ext. 243 or 263.

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Margery Hurst Centre
EC2 £4,500
+ PAID SEASON TICKET
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Secretary/Sales Department
Our Sales Manager requires an experienced secretary with good shorthand and typing to work with the Sales team. Candidates should be in their early 20s and have the ability to work under pressure and to use their own initiative, as our Sales Manager is out of the office a good deal of the time. Salary c. £3,500 to £4,000. As well as attractive salaries we offer generous holiday and sick leave entitlements, together with discount on all our merchandise. If you are interested in joining us please telephone for an appointment—Miss P. Laythorn, Glam Limited, 187-189 Oxford Street, London W1R 2AN, telephone 01-637 5653.

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required at Head Office of active group of international Trading Companies. Luxury modern office with friendly atmosphere. Successful applicant will preferably be aged between 25/35 and have good secretarial skills and pleasant personality. Approx £4,000 neg (Reviewed bi-annually) Contact Pauline or Susan for further information on 937 9371.

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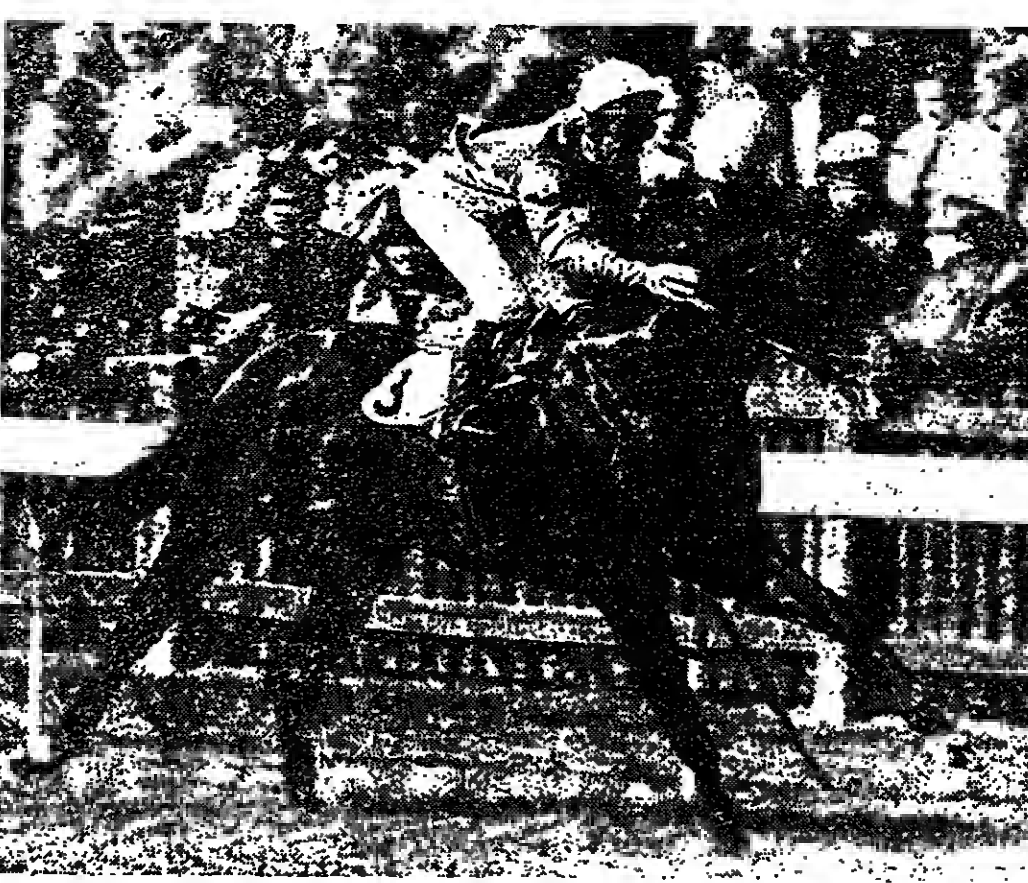
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RT

Piggott replaces Shoemaker on Hawaiian Sound in Gold Cup

Philips Piggott will ride the new-up Hawaiian Sound, son of Hedges and Hedges Gold Cup, in the American Jockey, Wilkes, after all. It was when he rode the colt in the Derby, Irish Derby, King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes that it was intended that he should be ridden by the American Jockey, Wilkes, after all. It was when he rode the colt in the Derby, Irish Derby, King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes that it was intended that he should be ridden by the American Jockey, Wilkes, after all.

both the Derby and the Irish Derby because he did not quite last a mile and a half and the shorter distance of both the Derby and Hedges Gold Cup and the Champion Stakes will suit him ideally. Yesterday Hill said that he, too, was of the same opinion and that he was confident that he would be very hard to beat next Tuesday.



Hawaiian Sound (ridden here by Ernie Johnson) will be brought back to 10 furlongs at York, where he is likely to be the market leader in the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup.

e shows his artistry on Tesoro Mio

derivation and Edward lined together to capture the richest prize of the Derby, the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup, with Tesoro Mio yesterday. The colt, who was the favourite, showed his artistry on the course, winning the race by a comfortable margin.

in the first race of the afternoon, The Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes. Ten furlongs gave the new-up Tesoro Mio a chance to show his artistry on the course, winning the race by a comfortable margin.

Brian's Venture wins big Belgian prize

The Belgian-owned Brian's Venture, trained by Barry Hills, won the Prix de la Forêt, a 1000 Guineas, at Deauville, France, yesterday. The colt, who was the favourite, showed his artistry on the course, winning the race by a comfortable margin.

Gairloch again produces his best form in France

Gairloch, trained by Barry Hills, won the Prix de la Forêt, a 1000 Guineas, at Deauville, France, yesterday. The colt, who was the favourite, showed his artistry on the course, winning the race by a comfortable margin.

Folkestone course easy for Hardirondo

Sydney Woodman was in jubilation mood at Folkestone yesterday after Hardirondo's fourth course success. The colt, who was the favourite, showed his artistry on the course, winning the race by a comfortable margin.

Key programme

STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £878: 5f)	STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £878: 5f)
1. Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	1. Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
2. American Jockey, Wilkes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	2. American Jockey, Wilkes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
3. King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	3. King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
4. Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	4. Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
5. Irish Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	5. Irish Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
6. Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	6. Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
7. Champion Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	7. Champion Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
8. Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	8. Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
9. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	9. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
10. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	10. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas

Pontefract results

STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £878: 5f)	STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £878: 5f)
1. Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	1. Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
2. American Jockey, Wilkes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	2. American Jockey, Wilkes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
3. King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	3. King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
4. Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	4. Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
5. Irish Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	5. Irish Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
6. Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	6. Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
7. Champion Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	7. Champion Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
8. Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	8. Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
9. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	9. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
10. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	10. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas

Brighton programme

STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £878: 5f)	STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £878: 5f)
1. Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	1. Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
2. American Jockey, Wilkes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	2. American Jockey, Wilkes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
3. King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	3. King VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
4. Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	4. Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
5. Irish Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	5. Irish Derby (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
6. Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	6. Benson and Hedges Gold Cup (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
7. Champion Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	7. Champion Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
8. Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	8. Glass Houghton Maiden Stakes (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
9. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	9. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas
10. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas	10. Prix de la Forêt (1000 Guineas) 1000 Guineas

Capes will compete in Prague under protest

Geoffrey Capes, England's Commonwealth Games gold medal winner, will compete in the European Championships in Prague at the end of the month under protest. Capes, who won the gold medal in the 100 metres at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, is protesting against the entry of the Soviet Union into the competition.

Huggett well placed to challenge Woosnam

Ian Woosnam, a 20-year-old tournament professional, attached to the Oswestry club, led the field at the halfway stage in the Welsh professional golf championship over the Whitchurch course yesterday. Huggett is well placed to challenge Woosnam.

Mrs Robertson excels in qualifying round

Plymouth Meeting (Pennsylvania), Aug 15—Gloria Robertson, a 19-year-old amateur, produced another upset when she won the qualifying round of the British Ladies Amateur Championship yesterday. Mrs Robertson excels in qualifying round.

Gaelic footballer puts out champion again

The third round of the Irish amateur Gaelic football championship at Carlow yesterday produced another upset when the reigning North of Ireland champion, Garth McGinley, was defeated by a local team. Gaelic footballer puts out champion again.

Record prize money

A first prize of £11,000, which will be a record for a billiards tournament, is offered for the winner of the British Open Billiards Championship, which will be played in the 1978-79 season. Record prize money.

Rugby Union

The Welsh Youth Rugby Union is to crack down on foul play with a new set of rules. The union is to crack down on foul play with a new set of rules. Rugby Union.

Australians confident of beating New Zealand

Pukekohe (New Zealand), Aug 15.—The Australian Rugby Union touring team scored a morale boosting 17-10 victory over the New Zealand team yesterday. Australians confident of beating New Zealand.

Welsh act against foul play

The Welsh Youth Rugby Union is to crack down on foul play with a new set of rules. The union is to crack down on foul play with a new set of rules. Welsh act against foul play.

£30,000 is needed: a small sum compared to the millions spent on unwanted supplies. But not a penny has come in...

The disaster unit facing a disaster of its own

In June, to considerable publicity and enthusiasm, a small group of doctors and scientists interested in aid and Third World emergencies launched the International Disaster Unit.

Its aims were so logically attractive that no one could have failed to welcome them: to provide a unit to investigate the needs of disaster victims in the immediate wake of an earthquake or flood, to devise ways of predicting groups vulnerable to disaster, and to act as an information centre and liaison for all bodies—voluntary agencies as well as governments—working in the field.

The IDU could not have come at a better moment. Many voluntary agencies who in the past scorned rigid evaluation of what they achieve in disasters have now actively started trying to take stock of what they accomplish with their plane loads of drugs, food supplies and instant houses.

The receiving countries have become ever more critical of the help doled out. And the public is growing daily more demanding about the money it gives away. Nor could the IDU's demands have been more modest: £30,000 a year to finance a director and a couple of specialists ready to fly to the scene of a disaster, and to set up a well stocked library in London.

That was two months ago. Not a penny of the £30,000 has been forthcoming. The IDU director, Dr Frances D'Souza, has applied to 67 major organizations—so far in vain. Unless money starts coming in soon, the IDU cannot long survive.

Since no regular assessment is made after an earthquake or a flood unwanted and expensive supplies are dashed off to the spot; they may get there fast, but they are often worse than useless. It is no good sending in thousands of tents as the Red Cross did after the Guatemalan 1976 earthquake if only seven are going to be occupied, nor plane-loads of vaccinations if there is no immediate threat of an epidemic.

There has built up a myth about disasters, says the IDU, that when they occur, the victims fall into a state of chaos and apathy. This is quite wrong: most behave logically and efficiently and they need to be helped to rebuild their own lives, rather than showered with unthinking supplies.

Systematic evaluation—that is the IDU key word—before and after a crisis alone will ensure that the real and not the

imagined needs of people are met. None of this is calculated to please organizations which live by providing massive food, medical and housing aid.

The scientific study of disasters—with one occurring every 8.5 days it is indeed a growth industry—goes back only 10 years. The Biafra refugees provided the first rapid scientific measure of malnutrition. Since then, more often despite

thao because of the agencies, says the IDU, a mass of accurate, important material on disasters has been collected. But do the agencies use it?

Part of the agencies' prickliness when confronted with the IDU stems from the age-old hostility and mistrust practical people feel who faced by technical scientists. It is an attitude somewhat crudely summed up by one agency field worker: "How can we possibly

have time to discuss relief work when people are dying?"

But it goes deeper. The IDU, agency officials complain, ignore the political realities of relief work. They generalize in cases where generalization is impossible. And that while it is, they admit, entirely true that they have made absurd blunders in the past, they no longer do so today. Tactless and paternalistic aid is a thing of the past. What the IDU proposes is in fact already being done—by their own field officers and researchers.

The IDU remains sceptical, despite the protestations, that the voluntary agencies are either prepared or capable of evaluating disaster needs properly. They point out that many are handicapped by a brief in get supplies to the spot as soon as is humanly possible after a disaster, and that most are dependent for their fund raising on publicity and photographs that appear after one has happened. Emotive pictures of rows of starving children

have great pulling appeal; a warning of an impending need for laminated plastic sheets does not.

At a conference in April in Oxford the IDU tried, with the participation of the agencies who attended, to formulate at least a few basic patterns for disasters. They found that no common statement was possible. Impressions, not quantitative rational information was produced.

"There is no common criteria now," says Dr D'Souza. "Evaluation of disaster needs in agency terms can be anything from a memo to a published report. And there is no regular commitment to publish what evaluation is done, nor any coordination between agencies or the international relief bodies."

Like all IDU members she believes that the voluntary agencies, like everyone else, must start becoming accountable, not only to their donors, but to the people they are helping. The sad irony is that in all

major disasters there are plus supplies of materials and money.

There is nothing new, what the IDU is saying—has been saying it for six years, queries, under its old guise, the London Technical Group its new launch is simply doing so for a more positive. The trouble is that doing so it seems to have into a role of "agency boss" that the IDU itself deplores.

In the absence of a money, infinitesimal compared to the millions spent on disaster relief work each year, it is in fact far more interesting field survey work of its and in getting on as far as possible to Bangladesh and Sahel.

What makes it all the depressing is that it is not better placed and more encased than any other group in this country to how massive a disaster problem there is likely to be in the coming disasters.

Reginald Maudling writes to a European friend

My dear Michael, I said I would write to you who Parliament had risen, and give you the best assessment I could make of the political situation here, and how it is likely to develop.

Well, thank heavens, Parliament has risen at last. The past few weeks of the session were not very distinguished. We spent a great deal of time arguing about devolution for Scotland and Wales, though what good it did anyone I am not sure, nor, I suspect, is anyone else. The result was fairly chaotic, and no one, I know, knows what the final outcome will be.

So far as my constituents in Chipping Barnet are concerned, I think their general view is that they have no objection whatever to the Scots running their own affairs so long as (a) they don't present us with a bill for it, and (b) they don't try and run our English affairs as well. I must say I have a lot of sympathy with that point of view.

The Government was pretty heavily battered in the last few weeks. I have never known a time when a government was defeated so frequently, or when there was so much uncertainty as to whether the Government would be beaten or not. I am not sure this is necessarily a bad thing.

You and I were brought up in the belief that it is very important to have a strong government that can impose its will, and for this reason it is important to have an effective government, majority, in the House of Commons. But times have changed. The growth of the local nationalist parties means that it is very difficult for either the major parties, Conservative or Labour, to have an overall majority in the House.

What we used to call the power of government to govern, has recently become more like the power of a doctrinaire government to impose doctrinaire policies. It may not be a bad thing for British democracy if the House of Commons can have more control over the government of the day.

But this, of course, depends upon the quality of the House of Commons, and the confidence it commands among the general public. Here I have considerable doubts. I cannot feel that the prestige and authority of Parliament among the general public has sadly declined. No doubt this is partly due to our own fault. I have, as you know, been worried by the growth in recent years of the yahoos technique, particularly at Question Time.

More and more we have got engrossed in the purely party battle, and less and less have we really striven to seek agreement on what course of action is in the true interest of the nation. Maybe this would not have mattered so much had it not been for the advent

of the broadcasting of Parliament. I always thought this was a mistake, and now I am convinced that it was. The simple fact is that you cannot reproduce over the air the atmosphere of the House of Commons. It is quite impossible for people listening to the BBC really to understand what is going on.

Unless you are there you cannot understand the atmosphere and purpose of the House, which, though it may have changed in recent years in some degree, is still basically the tradition upon which our Parliament, the Mother of all Parliaments, has been built.

So I must confess I feel rather unhappy about what emerged from the last few months of this parliamentary session. Certainly the Labour Government became more moderate. The Prime Minister was seeking to establish himself as a latter-day Baldwin. Extreme left-wing measures were no longer pursued. Income tax was in fact reduced. The Liberal Party claim that this was a result of the pact between themselves and the Labour Party. I doubt it. I think it emerged from grudging realization by the Labour Government of the facts of life.

Now you will ask me to assess what is the state of this country, and I should be so too, when you consider the figures as you like. Inflation is down, and I should hope so too, when you consider the heights to which it rose in the years of the present Government. The Prime Minister says complacently, "There is a very good chance that inflation will in future remain within single figures", do they really begin to calculate what in practice a cumulative annual 9 per cent depreciation in the purchasing power of our money means to us all, especially those who have earned and saved? No, a respite from disaster is not a guarantee of prosperity.

Then the unemployment figures remain depressing, and all the forecasts appear to indicate that they will get worse. It may be that this is not so serious a problem as it was in our young days, in the days of the Jarrov hunger marches. Social benefits are quite different now. But still I believe the inability to find a job puts into the hands of those who are unemployed, and above all, into the hands of our young people.

In general I will sum up the mood of Britain this way. It is depressed. Things in some ways are going better than they were but, for heavens sake, so they should. There is no prospect at the moment of a real revival of our country's life and glory, or of our people's happiness. Men and women look for leadership and inspiration. They look, above

all, to the House of Commons. I am afraid at present they feel they are looking in vain.

So what will happen this autumn? Will there be an election in October? That is the question everyone asks me. I do not know, only Jim Callaghan knows. I think, on the whole, the obvious will happen, and there will be one.

However, the matter rests of course with him and he is entitled to make his own personal decision. At present he seems to be enjoying his job (I don't know why) and I suppose like most prime ministers he will only go out if I had a bat I would still put it on October, because the obvious does sometimes happen, though I would not place a very large stake.

What of the result that is likely in October? Well, you pay your money and you take your choice, every sort of expert produces every sort of forecast. One thing alone is certain, that it is a particularly difficult forecast to make.

The Tories certainly should win. There is no doubt at all in my mind that there is an enormous demand for a change. So many people feel we could have been better governed in recent years. So many people, especially the better people, especially the better people, especially the better people, feel they have been unfairly treated by Labour. Whether they be entrepreneurs or skilled workers, they feel they have not received a proper reward for their efforts.

There is a widespread impression that Labour have failed the country, and the success of the Tories will be a vindication of the promises they made. There is no doubt that Labour have made some good promises, but they have not been fulfilled. Of course, there is nothing new in that proposition. The people never believe that any government has fulfilled its promises, and maybe they are right. And people always vote against a government rather than voting for an opposition. This is one of the fundamental principles of politics.

But there is another fundamental principle, sometimes ignored, and that is that your own supporters cannot vote twice over. The simple fact is that the decision in any general election rests in the hands of a relatively small minority of so-called floating voters, in a generally small number of so-called marginal constituencies. Having said that, however, I must in fairness add that the movement of the floating voters in the marginal constituencies is likely to reflect the general pattern of opinion in the country.

That is the strength of the Tory case. It is very, very considerable.

Even so the Tories may not win. I will tell you why in my next letter.

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The vanishing history of man



The authorities do not seem to have made up their minds about how Stonehenge should be protected from visitors. The original protective fence has been torn and the monument is surrounded by ropes attached to a series of posts. The area is patrolled by custodians to see that visitors do not get too near.

The mysterious attraction of places like Stonehenge and Avebury has never been greater than it is today—except, perhaps, in the days when they were constructed. As a result, their historical value is at risk from the very feet of those who visit them. The ancient ground contains important clues to the part such places played in the life of ancient societies, but they could soon be trodden out of existence. A few pushers, a scatter of bones—they may hold vital information for the understanding of the ceremonies that took place there, if only they survive.

The foremost megalithic monuments are at risk because of their popularity. But what about the lesser-known monuments, exposed on lonely moors and hillsides where field clearance and forestry can sweep them away in an effortless, unthinking process? Incredible though it may seem, this has actually been happening in recent years, sometimes to ancient remains that were only discovered in the process. How many sites have already vanished without ever being recorded? It may be that our whole picture of prehistoric man and his rites is inaccurate simply because some of the best evidence has gone.

But the worst devastation has been in the lowlands, where monuments larger than Stonehenge have completely disappeared. For these heaves were of earth and timber. Timber rots and leaves only a stain

buried in the land surface. The earthen banks slide gradually into the ditches. A century's deep ploughing flattens all features. They will only reappear fleetingly as ghost-like shadows under parched grass, ripening corn or drifting snow, when caught in slanting sunlight by the aerial photographer. Another season of ploughing, quarrying or building and they are lost. A few chance finds are all that is left to show what might have been. Every year, more new sites are detected from the air, and each could bring us nearer to an understanding of our remote ancestors and the way they lived and worshipped, but no sooner has the evidence come to light than it slips from our grasp.

Some will speculate—and with the current upsurge of popular interest in mysteries, magic and the occult, megaliths and related monuments have been claimed as guardians of an ancient wisdom, powerhouses of untapped earth-forces, or remnants of an extra-terrestrial culture. Traditional academic research continues with slow and painstaking deliberation at selected sites, but the sites themselves are vanishing. It is wish to discover the meaning of the stones and earthworks, we must act now.

Why, you may ask, is it left to us, the public, when the government has an Ancient Monuments Board, national and regional committees of advisers, a system for scheduling and protecting sites and a central

unit of excavators to deal with emergency issues; and when there are county and museum archaeologists and local amateur societies with long traditions of activity? The answer is that none of these resources nor even all of them together, are equal to the scale of the problem. The government spends a mere £2.5m a year on archaeology; the country still lacks an integrated archaeology service; and a comprehensive antiquities law is only at the draft stage.

On the one hand, the big developments companies, the multinational farming combines, who could afford to finance rescue work prior to their operations, are not obliged to; and on the other hand, individual farmers and landowners who cannot afford to lose the potential of valuable land are not compensated adequately for doing so. Both Rescue, the Trust for British Archaeology, and the Council for British Archaeology, have worked in recent years to bring the problem to public notice, to increase the funds available and to change the law—but it is a slow process, and in the meantime, the destruction continues.

Against this background, The Shepherd and the Stone Foundation has been set up in co-operation with the National Trust and finance research into megaliths and related monuments. In the very months that the foundation was being formed, a crisis emerged almost on the doorstep of its office in York. Intensified gravel extraction at Scorton, near Richmond,

in Yorkshire, was found to be encroaching on a strange earthwork thought to be a cursus—a long avenue formed by parallel banks and ditches. The cursus snake across country, sometimes for miles, often ending in other monuments like barrows (burial mounds) or henges (circular enclosures), which in intriguing turn out to be of later date. Stonehenge is, situated at the end of one, and the cursus at Scorton ends at some Bronze Age round barrows, after following a straight line down the Vale of York for over a mile.

Not far from Scorton a complex of henges and barrows lies between Cana and Hutton Moor, all virtually ploughed flat, while at Thornborough is a row of three large henges, astride the cursus, with barrows near by: the only henges now surviving above ground is in fact choked by trees. Of the four Devil's Arrows, a row of great standing stone near Boroughbridge, only three remain: there may well have been more in ancient times.

Clearly the whole area was the scene of intense activity in the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age; the monuments of which we know are merely the tip of the iceberg, as it were. At least £12,000 is required by the county archaeologist, Mike Griffiths, to excavate the Scorton complex; the £3,000 offered by the Department of the Environment was too little to be useful. And while the foundation is trying to raise funds for this work,

another threat looms in the south, where at Nepton is near Tadcaster a henge-barrow complex lies in the of a major gas supply pipe which could cut a 30ft swathe through the middle of it.

Although the need for a rescue action is obviously the foundation wishes to compile a comprehensive and relevant sites to initiate research programme. This proceed at a more leisurely pace, and will be bringing together interested amateurs representing a wide range of opinion, resulting in a comprehensive and relevant sites to initiate research programme. This proceed at a more leisurely pace, and will be bringing together interested amateurs representing a wide range of opinion, resulting in a comprehensive and relevant sites to initiate research programme.

What is Stonehenge? It is a roofless past; it is a mystery; it is a puzzle; it is a challenge; it is a quest; it is a search for the unknown in our own history.

His priest and stars that his domed exploring. And what is time that in that were cast? By these storm-sculpted stones while centuries: The stones remain; their needs can outlast. The skies of history have overhead.

Siegfried S. Christopher H.

MOSCOW DIARY

Putting colour back into Soviet lives

Slava Zaitsev is Russia's top fashion designer. His collections are shown at Moscow's house of fashion, and his ideas are copied by designers all over the Soviet Union.

In a country which has accepted the concept of fashion only recently but where consumer demand for elegance and style grows ever stronger, Zaitsev's role is increasingly important.

Haute couture, as understood in Paris and Rome, does not exist here. The idea of designing for a wealthy elite is unacceptable politically. Yet in a way Zaitsev does the same job as Pierre Cardin or Yves St Laurent.

He develops the theory and presents the ideas: it is up to others to adopt or adapt what they see.

Soviet fashion has come a long way in 10 years. People on the streets are better

dressed than they were. Many of the styles may be derivative; trends in the West take a couple of years to filter through.

But it is largely thanks to the efforts of people such as Zaitsev that the oppressive dullness and drabness, so noticeable in earlier years, is at last giving way to a little more colour and variety.

Reintroducing colour in people's lives is Zaitsev's overriding compulsion. He wants to bring back, in a practical and contemporary form, some of the traditional clothes Russians have worn for centuries.

In all his collections he tries to get in a reference to the bright folk costumes that his ancestors used to wear. In his designs for ordinary working clothes, he wants to draw on the richest heritages of the world, and one that has been all but lost in the past 60 turbulent years.

As chief designer in the House of Fashion he presents his collection once a year to clothing factory directors who come from all parts of the

country. His designs are printed in a book which is distributed to individual enterprises, and they are free to modify or adapt them according to local customs and needs.

In several ways Zaitsev is more limited than designers in the West. He can only suggest what Soviet factories can produce; he cannot specify colours and ribbons everywhere if the plan does not call for a sufficient quantity.

He cannot indulge in extravagant *jeux d'esprit* that have no mass appeal. He cannot design clothes too complicated for the average factory to produce. He is in constant contact with an industry that keeps trying to simplify and deaden his more intricate and exciting designs.

Once a year he and his colleagues at the House of Fashion get together with the aesthetic committee of the Ministry of Light Industry. They thrash out exactly how many of what will be available and Zaitsev makes his choice of materials, accessories, trimmings and so on.

Another limitation is his lack of contact with top names elsewhere in the fashion world. His office library subscribes to the main Western fashion magazines, but he himself has never been to the West. This isolates him from the vicissitudes of Paris, Rome and London. But it means his ideas remain more Russian, his themes more constant.

Still, by Soviet standards, Zaitsev is very free to do as he likes. As head of a group of five who develop the theory of fashion, he is the only one of the house's 60 designers allowed to go and come as he pleases.

Usually he designs at home, late at night. He lives in a modest two-room flat in central Moscow with his son, a medical student. His desk is a mass of crayons, pastels and paintbrushes.

Here he sits by the light of his desk lamp until 1 am or 2 am, sketching, colouring or expressing his feelings in his own personal portfolio. Invariably he listens to Vivaldi or some other record from his

large collection of baroque music. His enthusiasm takes him all over the Soviet Union, lecturing on fashion and meeting teachers and designers in institutes—"cultural propagandizing" he calls it.

He pays for his own travel. He has been several times to East Europe and once a year takes part in a general symposium of fashion designers under the auspices of Comecon, the Eastern block's trading group. East Germany has shown particular interest in his ideas and he is going to the Leipzig fair later this year.

Now a boyish 40, he began his career with something of a scandal. He trained at the Moscow Textile Institute for five and a half years and on graduation was assigned, as is the normal practice, to a small factory.

He began designing overalls and protective clothing which he found stultifying. He had no chance of putting his grand ideas into practice or expressing his feelings but, looking back, he now values the practical training in down-to-earth realities. After two years his

"I can only offer you a week at Leningrad airport—take it, or leave it..."



scope broadened, and he began designing clothes with folk themes. He was nominated to attend

a symposium in Moscow on fashion and took his portfolio with him, but his designs met with strong disapproval.

"These clothes are for a theatre or a show, not for life," senior and conservative designers told him. However, a journalist from the Soviet press was interested and arranged a meeting with a reporter from *Paris-Match* who was then in Moscow.

Paris-Match was very excited. The magazine published photographs of him, his flat, his creation and billed him "Dictator of Moscow fashion". He was just 25.

The Soviet authorities were not amused. He was quite unknown here. Then other Western magazines began to write about him.

The publicity could have been disastrous although it increased his own self-confidence enormously. But he was lucky. He was invited to join the House of Fashion and six years later became head of the design section.

Now he has an established reputation in the Soviet Union.

He is offered all his other work: theatre, radio book design and graphic can afford to pick and choose.

There are his favourite especially Shakespeare, boy and gypsy shows, as is plenty of scope for his names he likes. He goes to theatre in Moscow often.

Zaitsev designs as men and children's women. One small difficulty the lack of good models of his sketches feature, who often accompany father to private showrooms, and, prove clubs.

A quiet, intense man of working-class family, Zaitsev is dedicated to his work. He does not live a life of luxury. He is a designer in the West, he did many of the top well as the design in a flat himself.

But this does not worry him. What he wants most is to go to Paris and London to see what the ordinary woman wears.

Michael B.

a Special Report on economic development
in Macedonia, Thrace and Thessaly

Northern Greece

Land full of promise

ario Modiano

centre of gravity of
eek economy shifting
he south to northern

Nicholas Martis, who
been Minister for
rn Greece for the
our years, believes
is, and for several
asons.

is that the north pos-
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northern Greece was
y one of history's
r battlegrounds and
of nationalist rival-
is the only Greek
to have a resident
minister.

is the vanguard
armour not only of
but of the entire
id. Mr Martis, who
d a native of Mac-
ough with the Bri-
th Army at El Ala-
northern Greece has
of borders with
Yugoslavia, Bulgar-
rkey.

omany, Greece has
y corps, and they
ployed in northern
reece. In recent
e, emphasis in Greek
has shifted percep-
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they tend to over-
the traditional atti-
the Slavs in the

minister said: "I
here know that
defending the front
just now our rela-
with the northern
are so friendly also,

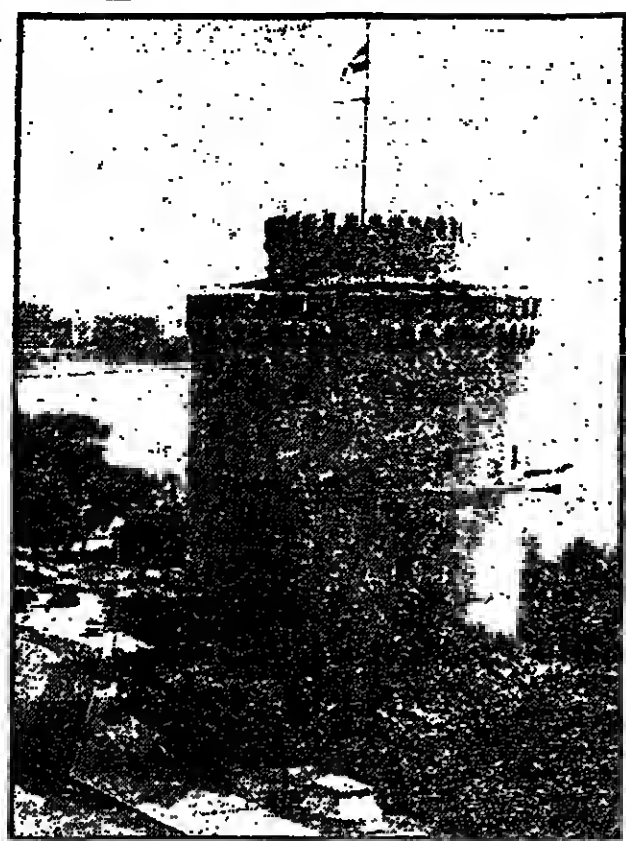
that we forget wars and
concentrate on how to de-
velop northern Greece and
bring prosperity to its
people.

The pattern of economic
growth in Macedonia and
Thrace, the main two pro-
vinces of northern Greece,
is changing rapidly. The
rich plains of Macedonia
had once been the nation's
bread-basket because 80 per
cent of the farmers grew
nothing but wheat. Thrace
relied for a living almost
exclusively on tobacco.
Today northern Greece
yields one third of the
nation's agricultural
produce and a quarter of its
industrial output.

The whole picture is
changing: the diversifi-
cation of crops has brought
new wealth to the farmers
of northern Greece and is
helping to rationalize agri-
culture.

Substantial inducements
for industrial development
have attracted Greek and
foreign investors to the
frontier areas, and the in-
dustrialization is making a
visible impact on the region.
Oil was found offshore near
Thasos island and this has
given a new impetus to
efforts for the exploitation
of the mineral resources of
the north.

A successful
ferry link for international
road transport was estab-
lished between northern
Greek ports and the Middle
East, and there is an ambi-
tious plan to build a Euro-
port at the mouth of the
river Axios near Salonika.



The White Tower, Salonika; built by Venetian engineers in the fifteenth century, it is regarded as a symbol of the city's survival in the face of invasion, fire and earthquake.

its rice, 73 per cent of its
peaches, 62 per cent of its
sugar beet, 37 per cent of
its exportable tobacco, 30
per cent of its apples, 33
per cent of its tomatoes, and
40 per cent of its cotton.

Off-season vegetables are
being grown in Halkidiki
and the venture is so suc-
cessful that charter aircraft
from Libya fly in three
times a week to buy them.
"We are organizing an air
transport station for veg-
etables at Salonika airport",
the minister said.

Northern Greece remains
a heavily agricultural area,
but industry is catching up.
The latest available statis-
tics show that the gross
domestic product comes
from agriculture (37 per
cent), from industry (33 per
cent) and from services (30
per cent). The gap between
industry and agriculture is
closing rapidly.

"What is fortunate is that
industrial development here
is balanced throughout the
area", the minister said.
"Thanks to the measures
taken by the Karamanlis
Government for industrial
decentralization, the front-
ier zones have become pri-
vileged areas and they now
attract a good deal of in-
vestment."

Salonika, of course, is the
major pole of attraction for
industry because of the
existing services, the trans-
port facilities, and the man-
power. Already the area
west of the city is a major
industrial zone centred
on the Esso-Pappas refinery
(US), the Ethyl Hellas com-
plex (US), the (French) che-
mical industries, and Hel-
lenic Steel (Japan).

A striking feature in the
industrialization of northern
Greece is the mushrooming
of factories in eastern Mac-
edonia and Thrace after the
Government decreed tax in-
ducements and other incen-
tives to bolster the economy
of the frontier area which

was sagging. The discovery
of oil and natural gas near
Thasos has given this area
new hopes.

In Thrace alone 229 appli-
cations for investments
worth £141m have been
approved. So far 71 projects
of a total value of £25m are
under way. There are at
least seven factories produc-
ing ready-made clothing and
underwear between Xanthi
and Kavalla, mainly for the
account of German firms.

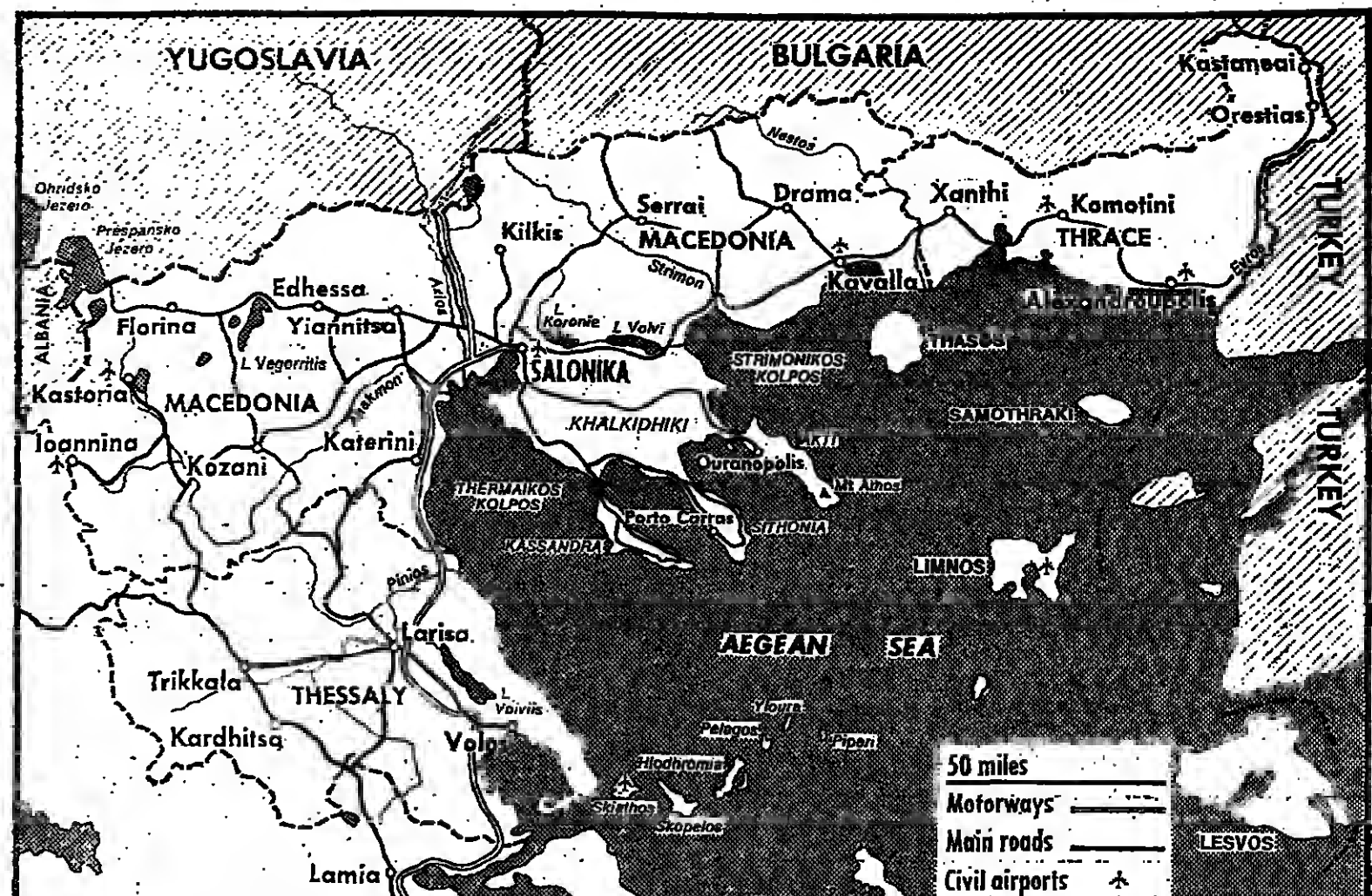
All this has the makings
of a boom, but local busi-
nessmen complain that the
foreign investors are not
trying to take advantage of
local raw materials, only of
the cheap labour and the
government incentives.

There is a dearth of in-
vestments in the eastern dis-
tricts of Thrace, but there
the Government, with the
help of the World Bank, has
embarked on a pilot project
of regional development
that will cost £52m, of
which the bank is contribut-
ing £18.3m.

There is a five-year pro-
gramme for the rapid
development of the Evros
district which borders on
Turkey, and irrigation pro-
jects: for example, develop-
ment of sugar production;
road construction;
procurement of
heavy agricultural machin-
ery for the local extension
services; building of tech-
nical schools; establishment
of municipal buildings and
cultural centres; water sup-
ply, improvement and, finally,
research and study
of new development possi-
bilities.

Mr Martis said: "The
Evros area has enormous
potential. What the plan will
do is to increase individual
revenue in the region—
which is lower than the
national average—and im-
prove the quality of life so
as to encourage people to
remain in the area."

It is against this back-
ground of agricultural and



industrial progress that
Northern Greece is begin-
ning to concentrate on the
fuller exploitation of the
area's vast mineral re-
sources.

Mr Martis said: "There
is enormous wealth in west-
ern Macedonia, for instance,
there are 2,100m tons of li-
ignite deposits at Ptolemais.
We are already using this
mineral to fuel nine power
stations of an installed
capacity of 1,260 megawatts.
Two more are under con-
struction and two others
will be assigned soon. Seven

more are on the cards—
total new investments of
£330m for an additional
expansion of 2,100MW
based on lignite."

There are also large de-
posits of asbestos in western
Macedonia. A £50m asbes-
tos factory with a 100,000 ton
capacity will start operating
there by 1980.

In Halkidiki, copper, sul-
phur and manganese are
thought to have been
exhausted 2,300 years ago.
After several years of
research it was proved that
the mines could be activated.
"If the plan goes through
it will involve an investment

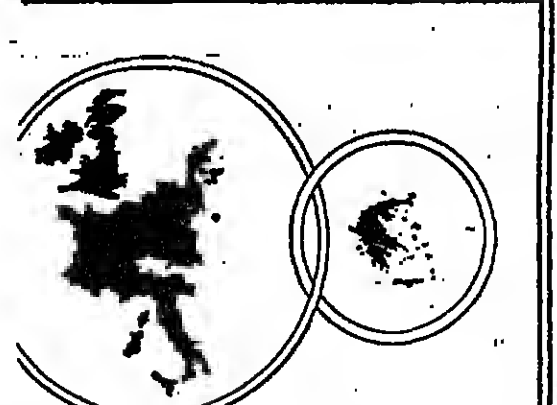
could be enriched with the
help of the natural gas that
is to be extracted from off-
shore wells. There is
marble everywhere in in-
finite varieties.

Mr Martis said gold had
been found at Olympias, in
Halkidiki, in the gold and
silver mines of Alexander
the Great which were
thought to have been
exhausted 2,300 years ago.
After several years of
research it was proved that
the mines could be activated.
"If the plan goes through
it will involve an investment

worth £100m. It will
produce two tons of gold
and 10 tons of silver a year
as well as substantial quan-
tities of lead."

This discovery, according
to Mr Martis, is important:
"This land is full of
promise. Within the next
five years industrial and
power projects worth
£1,169m will be established
according to existing plans.
This is proof of the coun-
try's vitality and potential
rich, and there was gold on
Thasos", he added. "The
Institute of Geological and
Mineral Research has met."

It will already found alluvial gold
in commercial quantities in
Nigrita, north-east of Salo-
nika, and gold has been
extracted from the river
Gallikos.



er's forthcoming entry into the European Community as a
after presages a brighter and happier future for all of the
inhabitants—the farmers in particular since agriculture is so
vital to them.

in this prospect in view, OGA, which is the Greek acronym for
National Social Insurance Organisation, is currently examining
problems and all the measures that will have to be taken to
insure to Community Market practices. These measures
will assist the government's efforts to transform the Greek
rural economy into a small or large entrepreneur
case in Western Europe.

A insures farmers and, in general, all those who work and
live in rural areas. OGA was established in 1961 and has
performed an important and extensive task. In order to under-
stand better, one should realize that before the advent of OGA
no basic protection for farmers. The elderly were abandoned
to fate. The crippling of a farmer meant unemployment and
for him and his family, sickness created problems of survival
and the sale of his property to pay for medical
treatment to his wife could result in poverty and destitution.
A set up to remedy this situation and constitute a historic land-
agricultural development. It provides relief after the fact,
to meet reverses and support of the aged. It has eliminated
anxiety, the anguish and the uncertainty that prevailed in the
past, the elderly and all those who live off the land,
in seventeen years of continuous growth and improvement, OGA
achieved:

• pensions to 460,000 elderly persons
• to 80,000 people who have been crippled by accident,
• or from birth

• medical care to the injured and their families. Some 270,000
• are treated every year at OGA's expense.

• insurance for all crops without exception against hail, frost, floods,
• and, OGA covers out thousands of damage assessments
• and, in 1977 1.3m assessments were made for damage by
• hail alone.

• out of large-family allowances to farming and urban beneficia-
• rians of the Ministry of Social Services.

• cost of the above is a large one. OGA's budget for the
• year is estimated at about 15 billion drachmas (£210m) com-
• pared with 1977's 12 billion.

• Indeed, remarkable that OGA's operations, which cover 2.5
• million people or about a quarter of Greece's total population, are
• run on a budget of only 15 billion drachmas.

• 2 per cent of revenue. This is made possible by making
• non-contributory, which can cope efficiently with the in-
• crease in a large and varied group, each with its own particular
• and scattered throughout the various parts of the country.

• A has set itself ambitious targets within the guidelines of
• the policy for the present and future. These are:

• to provide further simplified insurance procedures to provide
• more efficient service to the insured and to pen-
• sioners. To this end, OGA has launched a campaign with posters,
• brochures, etc to inform all concerned of matters relating
• to the insurance.

• to improve pensions which, although they have been increased by
• 5 per cent in recent years are still low.

• to provide and complement medical care which is a sector that is
• of particular interest to the government.

• to complement the insurance of agricultural products with a
• system that will prevent damage caused by hail and frost.

• to improve the insurance of agricultural products with a
• system that will prevent damage caused by hail and frost.

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Speedy action after disaster

Eight weeks after the severe
earthquake which rattled the
nerves of Salonika's 700,000
inhabitants more than it did
its buildings, fear continues
to dominate the city. Salonika
has yet to regain its self-
confidence.

Two thirds of the people
still refuse to sleep at home.
At dusk they retire to their
tenis, or they drive out of
town. Business is in the dol-
lums and, each time nor-
mality seems to be around
the corner, a tremor or two
will send people again
scurrying for safety.

The June 20 earthquake
caused extensive material
damage which was estimated
at £100m. But it is the
psychological shock that is
proving to have far more
serious consequences. One
reason for this is that people
were totally unprepared for
the ordeal: no earthquake
of this magnitude had hit
this area for 46 years.

The other is that the col-
lapse of a single block of
flats in the centre of town
has implanted the fear that
all buildings are unsafe.
Salonika, where economic
prosperity often finds strange
ways of manifesting itself,
is full of tall, often ugly

blocks of apartments that
look as if they had been
built of cheap materials.

Had this building not
rumbled, killing its 39 occu-
pants, Salonika's earthquake
might have gone down on
record as a minor event with
nine people dead, six of
them of heart attacks.

What added a nightmare
note to this experience was
the "object" panic that fol-
lowed the tremor. The
speers of Salonika that
nigh—the main clock was
at 11 pm—were clogged for
hours with 100,000 vehicles
full of terrified people feel-
ing trapped and thinking
only of escape.

The gigantic traffic jam
even paralysed the govern-
ment services. Mr Nicholas
Martis, the Minister for
Northern Greece, said he was
forced to give instructions
by wireless until his car
could reach the centre of
town. Official reactions were
unusually swift and efficient
in spite of inevitable mis-
takes and omissions. When
the bulk of the population
left, of course, relief for the
rest became a simpler
matter.

The Greek Army played a
major role in the rescue and
relief operation, particularly
in setting up 17,000 tents in
continued on next page

Two thousand years ago, the Greeks
would make sacrifice, in gratitude for
gifts from their gods.

Happily, the sacrifices are long gone,
but just as happily at least one gift has survived
the centuries.

That of Zeus' January
"Halkyon days."

He chose that month
to calm the seas and have
his sun god Helios bring
summer warmth to
the land, so the mythical
birds, the Halkyons, might
land and lay their eggs.

History has shown
that every January
since has retained that
summers allure.

Indeed, Greece is
almost alone in boasting
a truly temperate winter,
and a spring and autumn
that masquerade as summer.

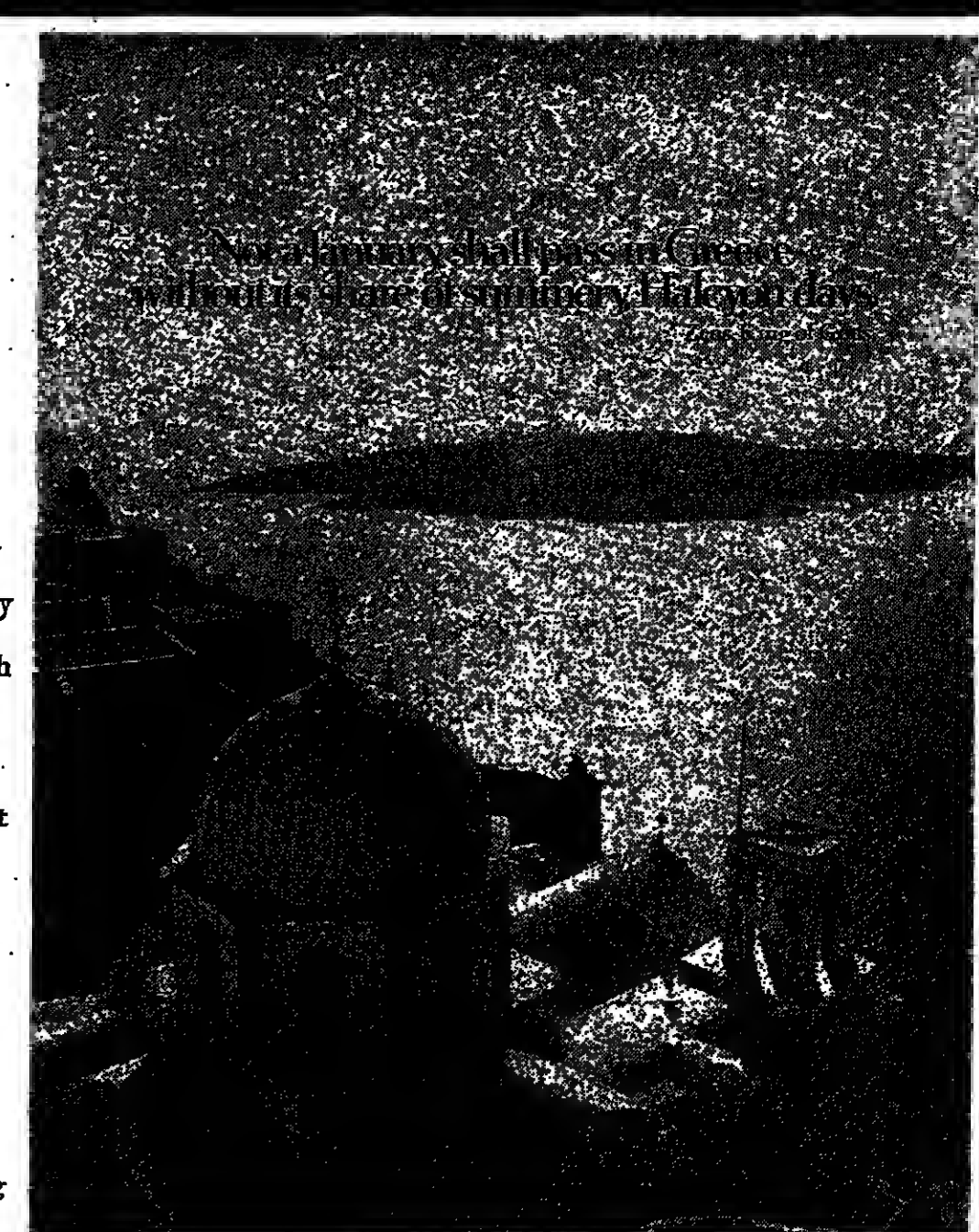
Off season Greece is a pure joy.
Benches are free from the maddening
crowd, and the secluded cove remains
a reality.

Archaeological and historical
splendour can be roamed and
savoured at leisure.

A wondrous season of classical
and religious festivals is staged for
the theatrically inclined.

And the Greek is encoun-
tered at his most relaxed. Wining,
dining, singing and entertaining until
dawn, he is himself.

We can tell you all about this winter
world of Hellenic delights, and how you



save on hotels and fares on our National
Airlines, Olympic Airways.

Write to: The National Tourist
Organisation of Greece, 195/17 Regent
Street, London W1.

Or call 01-734 5997/8/9. Or ask
your travel agent.

And whichever
month you choose, once you have
returned home, you'll pause to reflect as to
whether those Halkyon days were such a
myth after all.

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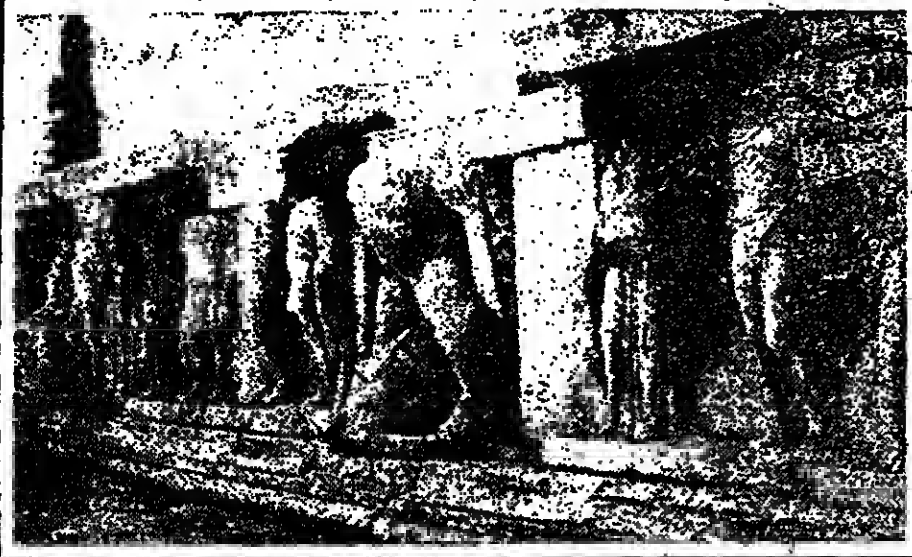
Greece and the Hellenic Isles.
They're closer than you think.

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A big bank in Greece
with a strikingly fast growth rate

	1977 (million U.S.\$)	1978 (million U.S.\$)	Percentage increase
Deposits	2,054	1,620	27%
Loans and advances	1,195	908	32%
Total assets	3,600	2,991	20%
Gross profit	91	64	41%
Net profit	15	7	111%
Dividend (in U.S.\$)	1.40	0.84	67%



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Oil tap turned on in three years' time

by Mario Modiano

Greece's first barrel of crude oil will be on the market by the middle of 1981 when the oil begins to flow from offshore wells west of Thasos island, just south of the Aegean port of Kavala.

This is the first oil strike in Greece, and there is promise of more. Yet, because of Greek-Turkish tensions over rival claims in the Aegean Sea, there is a good deal of circumspection in the area and the exploration is kept at a low key.

The North Aegean Petroleum Company, a Canadian-American-West German consortium that controls the Thasos concession, expects the oil to be produced off Thasos to yield about 22,000 barrels a day, besides 25 million cu ft of natural gas which, however, has a high sulphur content.

Another well in the adjoining area, known as South Kavala, has just yielded natural gas and gasoline, a very high-grade oil that it is said one could almost put in one's car. Experts are still calculating the reservoir area but the Greek Ministry of Industry and Energy estimates the yield at 850 to 1,000 bpd. More wells are to be drilled in the area, and one official

forecast is for an ultimate output of 12,000 bpd of gasoline.

Mr. Miltiades Evert, the Minister of Industry and Energy, said: "Already the discovery of oil in quantities of 33,000 to 35,000 barrels a day will bring substantial relief to the country's balance of payments which is burdened by \$1,000m a year for oil imports. However, there is still a great deal of work to be done to establish fully the extent of the oil deposits in the Aegean and their location."

Preparations for the exploitation of the Prinos field, five miles west of Thasos, are going ahead. Mr. Eleftherios Mihalovanoakis, the Kavala director of the state-controlled Greek Petroleum Corporation, said the plan was to put up three steel drilling platforms and one general production platform. Five production wells are to be drilled from each of the three platforms, a total of 15.

It is also proposed to drill eight injection wells to feed the deposit in order to force the oil out. The deposit is almost put in one's car. Experts are still calculating the reservoir area but the Greek Ministry of Industry and Energy estimates the yield at 850 to 1,000 bpd. More wells are to be drilled in the area, and one official

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Speedy action after disaster

continued from previous page

some 500 camps sites which are still in operation today in the city's squares, parks and sports grounds.

Within four days the prefecture of Salonika had printed and distributed a pamphlet giving the refugees instructions on how to organise their life in the camps, how to ensure essential services, particularly food, clothing and shelter, and how to use the telephone for emergencies.

Tools, food and cash were distributed with a speed that is not customary in Greek disasters.

Within a week of the earthquake, the authorities had mobilised all the civil engineers and sent teams to inspect the solidity of all the buildings in the city. Foreign experts were invited to Salonika to give advice on restoration.

The buildings found intact and solid were marked with a green sticker. A yellow

one was affixed to those in need of repairs. Red stickers were used to mark heavily-damaged structures. These were inspected for a second time to determine whether they should be repaired or demolished.

A total of 61,675 buildings were reviewed: of these 45,605 or almost three quarters, were declared safe, there were 31,023 in need of repairs, and 3,047 were given the red label, but when the review board examined them, only about 1,000 were declared unfit for habitation. Damage to industries and the harbour installations was minimal, but several schools were damaged and there will be difficulties when the school year begins in October.

The fine summer weather, of course, encourages most people to remain in the tents where it is cooler, or out of town, mainly at the traditional resorts of Halkidiki or

the coast towards Mount Olympus where traditionally most of the townspeople of Salonika would have sent their families for the season's holiday.

This dispersal has deeply affected the city's economic life. Although people commute and shops open, business is scant. The August sales have tended to activate some buying interest, but on the whole people hesitate to spend. They prefer to keep ready cash either for fear of another earthquake or in order to save for essential repairs, or because their own business is insecure.

To confront the situation the Government has decreed the freezing of all rents in Salonika until the end of 1979 to rescue house and shop tenants from the almost total loss of their homes and speculation that has swept the city.

Payment of all dues to the state—taxes, levies or insurance contributions—was suspended and arrears were consolidated for repayment by interest-free instalments. More than 100,000 working people were given cash grants totalling 16m to bolster their purchasing power and tide them over for the first few days.

Small industries were offered generous loans. All the industries were informed that they could repair all damage to buildings and machinery by borrowing the total cost from the Government for eight years at 5 per cent interest.

Merchants and artisans were offered prompt loans without formalities up to 27,000 at 9.5 per cent, a tenth of it on government guarantee.

The major problem, of course, is housing. By staying out of town, the people of Salonika are delaying repairs although they are aware that by mid-September the rains will begin.

There will be 50,000 homeless and when the winter sets in they will not be able to live under canvas. Of the 130,000 whose homes need repairs, many will have to stay with relatives until the repairs are carried out.

Mr. Constantinos Pylarinos, the energetic prefect of Salonika, said: "The question is to get our priorities right. We are now making a census to establish how many of the homeless families include members who are aged or chronically ill, or pregnant women, or a large number of children. They will be given accommodation first."

The prefect said that several alternatives existed: "We shall put them up in hotels, in retooled apartments, even in requisitioned rooms of large houses. But before we can proceed we must get some legislation passed."

To help the people of Salonika to repair their homes, the Government is giving them grants and loans in proportion to the damage incurred. Those who must rebuild their homes will receive up to 12,000, of which 1,200 or 10 per cent is a grant and the balance a loan to be repaid in 15 years at 3 per cent interest after a grace period of two years.

Repairs are to be financed up to the sum of 51,430, of which 4,430 or 30 per cent is a gift. The balance is repayable in 15 years at 4 per cent interest with a two-year grace. The financing is being granted on condition that the structure had been leased before the earthquake, the same tenant should be entitled to reoccupy the premises for the same rent.

There is a big disagreement between the Government and the Salonika Chamber of Technology which represents the city's engineers, architects and related professions. The Government rejected a recommendation by the chamber that the state should assume the full responsibility of carrying out the reconstruction and repairs with the help of a

cooperative of engineers, rather than leave it to individual owners.

Mr. Pylarinos said that there is bound to be a great shortage of building workers and technicians. There are 12,000 in Salonika now, but to meet the increased demand 30,000 will be needed this winter.

To speed up procedures and cut down delays, the Government has set up an ad hoc service in Salonika under Mr. Nicholas Zardinis, the Minister of Public Works, which is to supervise and coordinate the reconstruction of the city. It is vested with emergency powers needed to accelerate formalities and cut through the cumbersome red tape.

"What we need most of all," Mr. Pylarinos said, "is government efficiency. What happens in Salonika now is vital for the Greek people's trust in the state. It could either make it or break it. The main thing is to restore their confidence, get them back into town and start them working on the reconstruction of the city."

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Waterway link before 2000

Greece and Yugoslavia are cooperating closely to make the dream of generations come true before the year 2000—to link the Danube with the Aegean Sea by making the River Axios in northern Greece a navigable waterway.

The Axios project is directly linked with the plan to build an important European just west of Salonika at the mouth of the river, which will include an international free trade and industry zone.

Greek and Yugoslav experts, with the help of the United Nations development programme, are already engaged in an analysis of the flow of goods that would be expected to use this river route that cuts the distance between Belgrade and Suez by some 1,200km.

The idea of building a navigable link between the Danube and the Mediterranean dates back to the beginning of this century. In 1907 an American engineering firm began a preliminary study of the project and of cost estimates. Two years later the report was submitted to the Serbian and Turkish governments, but the plan was abandoned because of the taking of northern Greece from the Turks by the Greek army.

The idea has now been revived and the United Nations' development programme has agreed to finance the first stage of an economic study that would establish the terms of reference for a more detailed feasibility report.

The plan involves making the Morava, a tributary of the Danube, navigable to its sources, a distance of 345km. An artificial canal across the 80km watershed in south Serbia would then link the Morava to the River Vardar at its sources. The Vardar runs for 202km southwards; then, under the name Axios, it cuts across northern Greece for 73km to the Aegean on the coast.

A preliminary study prepared for the United Nations said the project was "technically feasible and economically justified." When this route joins the European canal network, and the Rhine-Meuse-Danube artery, the economic impact on the whole region will be enormous.

There are several advantages in building this waterway and the most important

are that this form of transportation costs only one of the cost of rail transport, it is far more convenient and it is safer.

The Morava-Axios waterway will shorten the 1,000 km sea voyage between grade and the port of Salonika from the 11 needed via the Danube, the Black Sea to only a few days.

By the year 2000 when the waterway could be in operation, it could handle a 10 million tons of goods annually. In addition, it would create a supply in adjacent areas along the canal route for hydroelectric power projects, irrigation and control.

Greek experts, however, foresee several difficulties. "The project will involve sanding a traffic by step dams, at an altitude of 400 metres," official said, "and that is not easy."

According to preliminary estimates, about 65 dams will be required, manage the big slope in natural course of the river. "At this stage we must study the technical problems fully to see if it is the effort," the official added.

There are no cost estimates at this juncture, but it is clear that Greece and Yugoslavia will not be able to shoulder the burden of the project. They are therefore trying to contribute to construction of what will be the last leg of a network of waterways linking the Aegean Sea to the Mediterranean. "Macedonia and Serbia are bridge that links Asia and Africa," official said. "This project is a bridge that links the Aegean Sea to the Mediterranean."

Some Greeks seem to fear that the project will lead to the creation of a military base in Greece, or a military base in the Aegean. "The project presupposes a long period of peaceful existence in the area," official said, "and the construction and high cost of the project will be a major obstacle to the project."

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(A national and international port of transit)

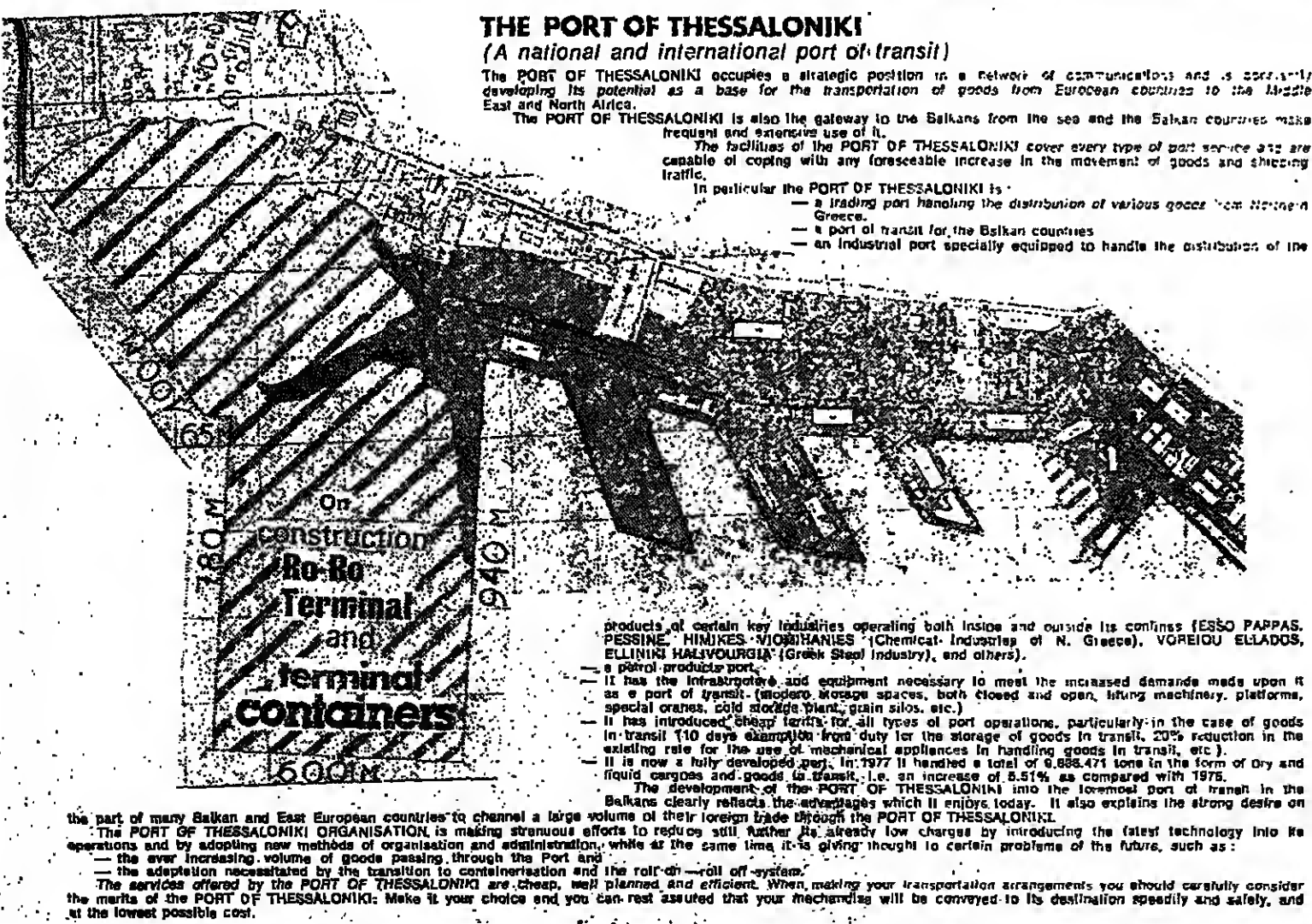
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the part of many Balkan and East European countries to channel a large volume of their foreign trade through the PORT OF THESSALONIKI.

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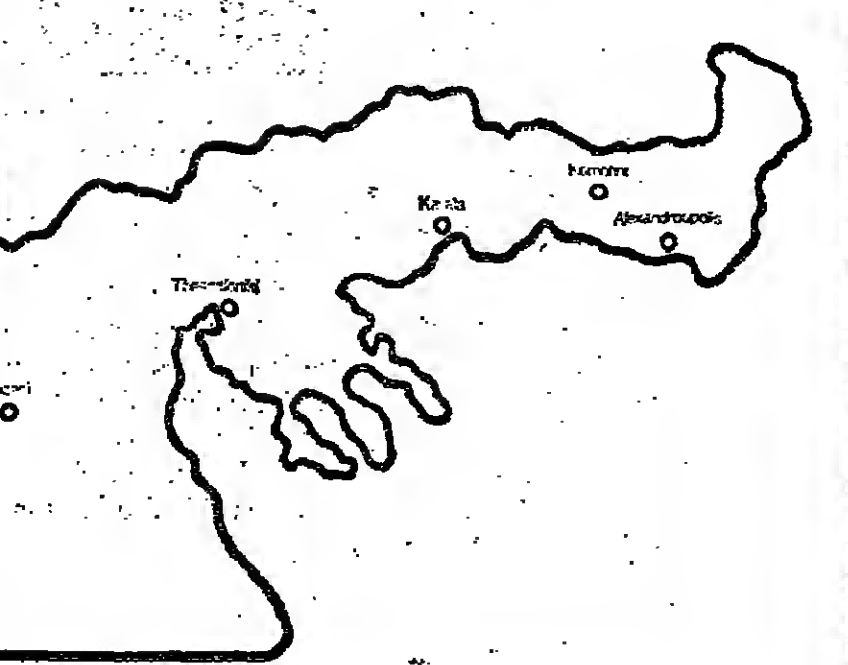
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Rich and enduring tradition of handicrafts

by Sheila Walsh

As early as the fourth century there was a copper-smiths' guild in Salonika. In the twelfth century a church was built near there that took the name of Our Lady of the Copper-smiths. The church is still there today and so are the copper-smiths.

The tradition of handicrafts in northern Greece is not only rich and varied: it is enduring. While the copper-smiths, trays and pots that used to be made as ordinary household items are now more likely to be bought by gift-shoppers, tourists or serious chefs, the shapes and the patterns of the wares remain the same.

Salonika's key position as a port and a commercial centre made this area's products known as a time when the south was still fairly isolated. In the eighteenth century Salonika was exporting highly-prized silk shirts and woollen fabrics made by local craftsmen.

Wool, probably the most widely practised of the domestic crafts, has long been a speciality of northern Greece. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the weavers organized themselves into guilds and produced on a large scale for

local consumption and export. The weaving of skouli, a thick, heavy woollen fabric, became the chief occupation of entire villages.

Drama's speciality was fine linen, "light as air", according to one eighteenth-century traveller. Soufli, in Thrace, was the centre of the silk industry. Silk came to Greece in the eighth century and sericulture is once again becoming an important part of the local economy. At Soufli, where mulberry trees thrive, the people worked silk hosiery as a cottage industry and a manufactured product.

The flood of synthetic fibres after the Second World War was a disaster for Soufli, and the factories were abandoned. But in recent years there has been a revived demand for silk. Soufli imported new strains of silkworms from Japan, the culture was reopened and the looms reinstated. The local women went back to reeling and weaving the raw silk materials called *koukoulurika*.

As the demand for silk continued to grow, modern, mechanized looms were installed to supplement the wooden ones used in the home. The traditional methods have not been abandoned, but Soufli has widened its range of products to include different varieties of pure silks, as

well as silk and cotton mixtures. The Greek Government gives strong support to handicrafts. It has set up craft schools throughout the country to preserve the art and also in giro work to rural areas. Through Eommex, the organization set up to coordinate and develop handicraft production, the work of Greek craftsmen is displayed in Greece and abroad. Experts advise the artisans on fashion trends and new methods that can be adapted to ancient crafts.

Some of the organization's projects include the setting up of a carpet workshop in the village of Askite, where there are already a number of carpet-makers working on their own. Another two schools of carpet-making are scheduled for the island of Samothrace.

However, prosperity has cut down the number of girls

and women who want to work by loom the intricately patterned Greek traditional rugs. Those who do the work do it because it appeals to them, not because they have no other way of earning money. At Ooranospolis, on the Athos peninsula, Mrs J. N. Loch, an Australian, started the villagers working on carpets in 1928.

They are still making the justly famed carpets but fewer of them each year. One of Mrs Loch's helpers said: "In 1928 the people here were not getting enough to eat. Now they are better off. The girls go on to secondary school and few of them want to sit at a loom."

Many of the patterns and traditions associated with Greek handicrafts come from the rich and varied local costumes. Macedonians are noted for the great variety of embroidery on their costumes.

Among the most colourful

of these are the traditional costumes of the Sarakatsani, a Greek community of nomadic shepherds. Their clothing is usually brightly coloured and embroidery in patterns that are almost architectural. The aprons had a ritualistic significance for the woman. In the spring time they would wear aprons embroidered with trees, branches and flowers, as an invocation to nature.

Many of these are now hanging in folk-art museums but their use of colour and motifs inspires the designers of the ethnic fashions which prove so popular with tourists and even with the Greeks themselves.

Handicrafts are very much a living tradition in northern Greece. Some of it is commercialized for quick sale to the passing tourist, but much of it is still the work of artists who derive a deep satisfaction from carrying on the crafts of their forefathers.

Everything except enough tourists

Northern Greece, Alexander the Great's stepping stone to the conquest of an empire, has launched its own campaign to attract more tourists to its sunny, uncrowded shores.

Greek tourism has boomed over the past decade, as millions of tourists made Athens or the islands their holiday destinations. Northern Greece has been left on the sidelines. Salonika, Halkidiki, or Thasos have not so far been able to match the magnetic quality of Athens, Corfu or Mykonos.

"We are simply not as well known as other parts of the country," said Mr Frixos Mandamadoris, the director of the National Tourist Organization of Greece for Macedonia and Thrace. The resorts and the hotels are there, he said.

"The only problem we have about tourism in northern Greece is that of bringing in more tourists." Some two million people a year enter Greece from the North, but most of them are in transit.

The June earthquake of course has made 1978 a bad year for tourism in northern Greece. The NTOT estimates that tourism in Salonika is down 70 per cent this summer. One of the major hotels was badly damaged, but the city's basic tourist services are intact.

Officials are confident that they will not only make up for the setback, but give a fresh impetus to tourism in northern Greece.

Their trump cards are the recently excavated treasures from the tomb of King Philip of Macedonia and Halkidiki, a peninsula east of Salonika with hundreds of miles of unspoiled beaches and coves.

The find of the 1,300-year-old gold caskets and regalia from the tomb of Alexander's father went on display in Salonika this month and will remain as a permanent exhibit. The excavation of the royal tomb at Vergina by Professor Manolis Andronikos, of Salonika University, has yielded one of the richest and most spectacular finds of recent years, of interest both to the archaeologist and the tourist.

The second trump card, the Halkidiki peninsula, has been developing as a resort area for more than a decade, but the feeling is that its moment has come. Mr Mandamadoris said: "In a short time this region will become Greece's number one tourist resort."

About two hours by road from Salonika, the 1,136 sq mile Halkidiki peninsula juts into the Aegean and divides into three finger-like promontories. Kassandria, the westernmost finger, has 144 miles of coast. Sithonia in the middle has 192 miles of shore, and Athos to the east is the unique monastic state where the orthodox tradition is preserved in 20 isolated monasteries.

If the isolation of Mount Athos was intentional, that of the rest of Halkidiki until recent years was largely because of poor roads. In 1965, 123 tourists visited Halkidiki. Last year there were 35,077. The area now has not only good roads but hotels, most with more than 6,000 beds, most of them in A class and B class hotels. Halkidiki was not touched by the earthquake, and there are plans to add another 3,500 hotel beds in the next two years. There are also organized camping sites which registered 500,000 overnight stays last year.

The first things that strike the visitor to Halkidiki is that it is uncrowded, and that its impressive natural beauty

does not seem to have been ruined by its touristic development. Both the NTOT and private developers seem determined to bring more holidaymakers there without spoiling the natural beauty of trees, rock and crystalline seas that are Halkidiki's great attraction.

Mr John Carras, the Greek shipowner, has been a pioneer in this. He began work on his 4,500-acre Porto Carras resort project in 1966, beginning by building roads, planting fruit trees and vineyards. One of his aims was to produce the food and wines for his hotel guests on the vast estate.

At present there is an attractive 160-bed hotel operating at Porto Carras and preparations are being made to build two more large hotels, possibly in collaboration with an international hotel chain.

A royal visit gives cachet to any resort, and Queen Juliana of The Netherlands and her husband are spending their August holiday this year at the shipowner's villa at Porto Carras.

The National Tourist Organization is also making efforts not only to preserve the natural beauties of Halkidiki, but its traditions. Salonika University is preparing a study on how best to use four of the villages of Halkidiki to introduce visitors to the real Greece, with small shops and dancing in the square, without turning the communities into film sets.

Halkidiki has miles of beaches for all tastes—sand, pebble, rock and myriad coves for those who prefer the shade of a tree to a beach umbrella.

The peninsula is also one of the seven areas where scuba-diving is permitted in Greece, a country where it is strictly regulated by the department of antiquities. There are zones for scuba-diving on the east coast of the Kassandria peninsula, on the east side of Sithonia, and at the beginning of Athos peninsula before it comes under the jurisdiction of the monasteries.

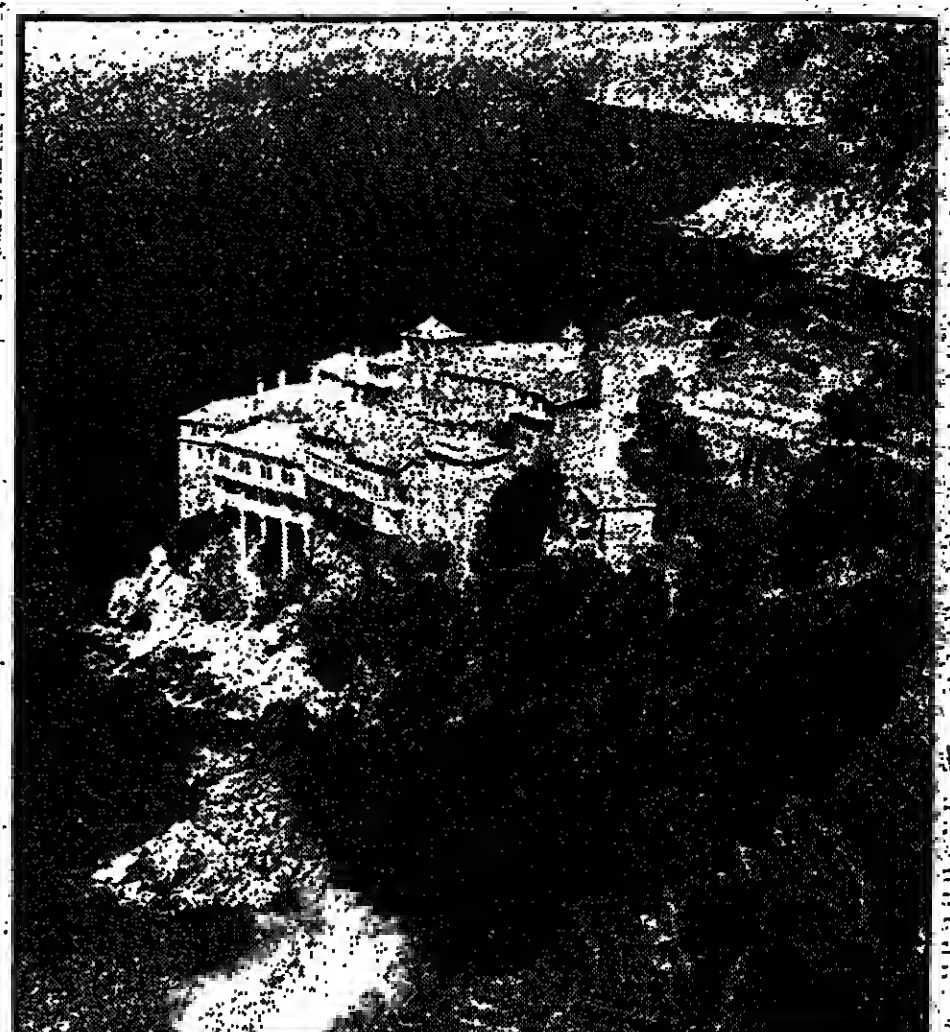
The expansion of tourism in Halkidiki is also expected to give an additional boost to tourism in Salonika, the second largest city of Greece. It has been a busy port since before 316 BC and has the charm of a large city built on the sea. Salonika has a cosmopolitan air that reflects its long history of invasions and its geographic position as a bridge between East and West.

After the Macedonians, the Romans left their monuments and were followed by the Slavs, the Saracens and the Normans. It was a great city of the Byzantine empire until the fifteenth century when it was taken over first by the Venetians and then by the Turks. Although fiercely proud of its Greek tradition, Salonika did not become part of Greece until 1912, when the Turks lost it in the Balkan wars.

Salonika is especially rich in Byzantine monuments and mosaics spanning the period from the fourth to the fourteenth century AD. Salonika also offers the visitor elegant shops on tree-lined avenues, good restaurants and comfortable hotels ranging from the ultra-modern Macedonia Palace to the luxury class to clean but simple accommodation for an overnight stop.

While Salonika has a great deal to offer the tourist, it is not a city that concentrates on tourism. Like London it has a life of its own—the tourist can enter into it but cannot alter it.

S.W.



The fourteenth-century monastery of St Gregory on Mount Athos.



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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ELECTRIFICATION OF GREECE

A Broad Expansion Programme up to 1987

The principal factor in the normal course of the country's economic development so far has been the adequate supply of energy.

Large works for the production, transmission and distribution of electrical energy are the expression of a strong electrical economy which is based on the ever growing exploitation of national energy resources.

The Public Power Corporation, which is exclusively responsible for electrification in Greece, has oriented itself towards the construction of hydroelectric and lignite-fired power plants as specifically outlined in the 1978-1987 energy programme. Today, the PPC's power stations have a total installed power of about 4,700 MW of which 3,300 MW are produced by local energy sources, i.e. lignite and waterfalls. The installed power of the lignite-fired and hydroelectric units is expected to rise to 8,350 MW by 1987 whereas that of the oil-fired units will remain unchanged.

1977: A STEADY RISE IN THE ELECTRICAL ECONOMY

Electrical energy produced by the hydroelectric, lignite-fired and oil-fired stations during the past year amounted to 17,401 million kilowatt-hours and exceeded the previous year's production by 6.5%.

Of this total figure, 12,086 million kwh, or 69%, were produced by hydroelectric and lignite-fired stations while 5,315 million kwh, or 31%, were covered by oil-fired stations.

This is an important achievement when one considers that 27 years ago, electric power production in Greece was 98% dependent on units fired by imported oil and only 2% dependent on local energy sources.

Electric energy consumption in 1977 amounted to 16,057 million kwh, serving 98.8% of the country's total population. More specifically, consumption amounted to 1,765 kwh per person.

Of this total consumption, 8,562 million kwh, or 54%, were absorbed by industry while the PPC's total revenues from the sale of electric current amounted to \$587 million.

The PPC's investments in the energy sector amounted to \$250.6 million of which \$77.6 million were spent on production works, \$27.3 million on transmission works and \$139.3 million on distribution works.

Finally, the Corporation's fixed assets, after depreciation, were calculated at \$2,258.2 million while total assets in 1977 were more than \$2,640.9 million.

THE EXPLOITATION OF LOCAL ENERGY RESOURCES

With the prospect of covering the continually increasing electrical energy requirements of the Greek economy, which from 1978 to 1987 are expected to increase at an average annual rate of 9%, the PPC is seeking to make the most of national energy resources.

Thus, the production of the PPC's inter-connected system is expected to rise from 16,729 million kwh in 1977 to 40,170 million kwh in 1987—a rise of 140% in

ten years which should be considered particularly satisfactory for the Greek electrical economy.

More specifically, of this total production of 40,170 million kwh, 32,930 million kwh, or 82%, will derive from waterfalls and lignite and 6,835 million kwh, or 17%, from oil fuel. The remaining 405 million kwh, or 1%, will derive from Greece's first nuclear-powered plant which is expected to go into production in 1987.

THE LIGNITE DEPOSITS

The large power stations to be built during the next ten years will be using lignite to the fore as a major source of electrical energy.

The new lignite-fired stations will make use of the country's lignite deposits which have been assessed at 3,888 million tons of which 2,150 million tons are considered exploitable.

In fact, from 1980 to 1987, the plan is to install in stages and bring into operation ten lignite-fired stations totalling 3,000 MW which, at the end of this period, will have an annual production capacity in the order of 19,000 million kwh. And if everything goes according to schedule, the PPC will have 20 lignite-fired units with a total production of electrical energy amounting to 28,350 million kwh.

Thus, at the end of the current decade, electric current production from lignite will cover 70% of total production or more than was produced last year by the PPC's hydroelectric and lignite-fired stations together.

THE HYDRODYNAMIC POTENTIAL OF RIVERS

With the construction of 21 new hydroelectric units totalling 1,974 MW, the PPC will make use, as a first phase, of the Acheloos, Arachthos and Aliakmon rivers and subsequently, the Nestos, Aios and Mornos rivers.

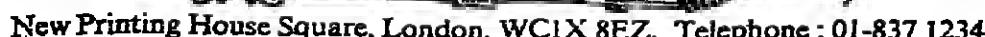
With these new stations, hydroelectric power production will amount to an estimated 4,850 million kwh, covering 11.4% of total electric energy production.

It should be noted, however, that this percentage has been calculated on the basis of critical hydrological conditions. In the event of average hydrological conditions, hydroelectric power could cover 15% of production with a proportional reduction in production by the oil-fired stations.

THE NUCLEAR UNIT

The prospects envisaged by the PPC's energy programme from 1978 to 1987 indicate that by the end of the decade, an important part of the country's local energy resources, i.e. lignite and waterfalls, will have been harnessed.

The study and long-term perspectives of the country's energy needs, however, have dictated the inclusion in the development programme of a 600 MW nuclear-powered unit to come into operation in 1987. This unit, for which the PPC has already begun the preparatory work, is expected to produce 405 million kwh at the end of 1987, when it is ready to operate.



Smiling at strangers.
From Mr G. F. Bagshawe.
Sir, I suggest Miss John Miller (August 11) tries her smile sometime in some of the country districts of Yorkshire. A slight smile will come to return with the characteristic swing of the head to the left, and the appreciative verbal reply of "owjadoo".
Yours faithfully,
GEORGE F. BAGSHAWE,
Linton,
Wetherby, Yorkshire.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

N Ireland
defends
car project,
page 16

National Institute foresees renewed stagnation for British economy in 1979

By Blake
In faces renewed economic stagnation in 1979, according to the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, the British economy will be only 0.6 per cent higher at the end of that year than at the end of 1978. Unemployment is expected to start to rise next year from its current level of 1.3 million to 1.5 million at the end of 1979. Only the balance of payments will seem to do well, with a surplus of £1,900m predicted for 1979. Even this is not a sign of improvement in the underlying performance of the economy, however. If the non-oil trade balance is examined it shows a worsening in the deficit to £3,500m from £2,500m this year. The institute argues that the right policy for the Government to pursue is essentially the one which it has been following for most of this year. This is to cut income tax to increase real take-home pay and to hope that this will keep down the level of wage settlements. Even without a further round of tax cuts it is expected that public sector borrowing needs will be of the order of £8,400m, which is £300m more than needed this year. A new round of tax cuts to

boost growth would clearly need to be at least £2,000m to have a significant effect on the institute's forecasts, pushing the deficit above £10,000m. Such a deficit might pose problems for the authorities in financing their borrowing needs if they were to seek to remain within tight monetary guidelines. The review predicts that during the current year Britain will breach the ceiling of £6,000m on its Domestic Credit Expansion, agreed with the International Monetary Fund, by nearly £1,000m. Any expansion next year would, it admits, cut the projected balance of payments surplus and put the pound's parity in jeopardy. Even without further expansion it is expected to fall from its present value of around 62½ per cent of its May 1970 parity to 59½ per cent by the end of 1979. The worry is that this would feed through into prices, both directly and through higher wage demands. The authors of the review say that there is no real evidence to suggest what the level of wage settlements will be in the next year and assume in making their forecast that earnings will rise by about 12 per cent. World forecasts and tables, page 16

Union wants British stake in Chrysler successor

By Donald MacIntyre
The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers is urging the Government to take a stake in any United Kingdom company set up as a result of the sale of Chrysler's European operations to Peugeot-Citroën. The union's executive decided in London yesterday to write to Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, saying that direct Government involvement in the company would be the best way of preserving jobs. Mr Hugh Scanlon, the union's president, said after the meeting that whatever Chrysler's legal obligations it had a "moral obligation to ensure that taxpayers' money is not only looked after but looked after in a way which will ensure continuing employment both in Chrysler and in the suppliers." He added: "The best way in our view is government involvement in the new company." The executive, who yesterday heard a report from Mr Terry Duffy, the union's president, said that the proposed sale of Chrysler's European operations to Peugeot-Citroën would mean the loss of 1,500 jobs in the United Kingdom. The union's executive is urging the Government to take a stake in any United Kingdom company set up as a result of the sale of Chrysler's European operations to Peugeot-Citroën. The union's executive decided in London yesterday to write to Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, saying that direct Government involvement in the company would be the best way of preserving jobs. Mr Hugh Scanlon, the union's president, said after the meeting that whatever Chrysler's legal obligations it had a "moral obligation to ensure that taxpayers' money is not only looked after but looked after in a way which will ensure continuing employment both in Chrysler and in the suppliers." He added: "The best way in our view is government involvement in the new company." The executive, who yesterday heard a report from Mr Terry Duffy, the union's president, said that the proposed sale of Chrysler's European operations to Peugeot-Citroën would mean the loss of 1,500 jobs in the United Kingdom.

State takeover nets Hawker £60m

By Christopher Wilkins
Hawker Siddeley is to receive £60m as compensation for the nationalization of its aerospace interests last year. The deal, which has been agreed between Hawker and the Department of Industry, is the first to be reached in the context of aerospace nationalization, although last month Swan Hunter concluded a settlement over the nationalization of its shipbuilding operations. The deal was agreed in the City last night as the agreement looked reasonably generous to Hawker and could be taken as a favourable omen for GEC and Vickers, the other two big companies involved in compensation talks over the state takeover of British Aircraft Corporation.

The precise formula upon which compensation has been based is unclear. Hawker refused to reveal details beyond stating that it was based on the average value of the assets acquired had they been listed on the Stock Exchange in the six months ended February 28, 1974. Deductions have then been made in respect of certain dividend payments. The position is confused by the fact that the two companies which were nationalized, Hawker Siddeley Aviation and Hawker Siddeley Dynamics, were unquoted subsidiaries, and it would appear the final terms were agreed only after tough negotiations. Settlement means that Hawker has received a total of £108.7m for its aerospace interests. Last year it received repayment of loans made to the two companies worth £48.7m. Earlier this year Hawker was paid £3.1m on account, but this is being regarded as part of the £60m agreement. These figures compare with a balance sheet value at the end of 1976 of £73.1m, which fell to £25.8m last year following repayment of the loans. On the basis of the agreed terms, the aerospace assets were worth a quarter of Hawker's total assets of £92.5m. In profit terms aerospace contributed £19.4m before tax in 1976 out of group profits of £52.6m. The impact of the latest payment, which is to be made in the form of government stock, will be to increase further Hawker's already generous cash balances. Following the loan repayments last year Hawker showed a net cash surplus of £99m. A spokesman for Hawker said last night that the board was still considering a refund of compensation money to shareholders, although he pointed out there were a number of practical disadvantages. The company has already indicated that it is stepping up its capital spending programme in Britain and that it is looking for new acquisitions, particularly in the United States. Just ahead of the announcement yesterday Hawker's share listing on the Stock Exchange was temporarily suspended at 2.44p. Financial Editor, page 17

Monopolies inquiry on readings

By Harris
The advertising posters, drive worth more than £250,000, are being made by the Monopolies and Commission by Mr Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading. As disclosed last night and Allen, one of the poster sites who have been asked to the Commission, the office of Fair Trading, confirmed that 10 sites had been asked to include two trade loans as well as other and agencies in poster space.

Footwear retailers to accept cut in profits

By Edward Townsend
Gross profit margins of Britain's multiple footwear retailers are to be curbed by the Government from October 1, but companies are allowed the alternative of making voluntary cuts coupled with assurances on issues such as the sale of cheap imports. Retailers have until the end of this month to declare an undertaking before Mr Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, makes an order implementing the restrictions which formed the chief recommendation of the Price Commission's report on the shoe industry in June. The British Shoe Corporation, which controls a fifth of the retail outlets, welcomed the proposal and said it would opt for the alternative voluntary basis. The BSC, whose retail chains include Saxe, Lilly and Skinner, Dolcis, Manfield, Freeman Hardy & Willis, Truform and Curries, said it would hold its margins in the next two years to the 1977-78 level. Any reduction in profits should be more than made good by anticipated increase in sales. It is the first time that Mr Hattersley has used the provisions of the Price Commission Act 1977 as a lever to induce companies to take voluntary action. The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection said yesterday that the extent of the restrictions on margins

would depend on the willingness of the companies concerned to give assurances "on matters other than price." Apart from the cut in margins, these include improvements to the so-called retail commitment, the preservation of employment and consumer protection. The latter, to be achieved by improvements to the Footwear Code of Practice, involve action to increase industry-funded research, a reduction in the growth number of consumer complaints and the establishment of educational programmes, particularly for children and old people. The assurances being demanded are designed to reflect the Government's industrial strategy and to help the troubled footwear manufacturing sector where imports are now capturing about 44 per cent of the market. Mr Hattersley's department made clear yesterday that in reaching a decision the Director General of Fair Trading would consider not only the BSC's market share but also "its conduct and performance in the market." In its report, the commission urged that the gross profit margins of all multiple footwear retailers, which last year averaged 47 per cent, should not exceed two points below that of 1977, whichever was the greater. In the case of BSC this will mean reducing its margins by 1.2 per cent in the year from October.

Dollar revives after bank support but pound fails to hold \$2 level

By Caroline Atkinson
In chaotic trading yesterday the American dollar crashed to a new record low against several currencies while sterling rose briefly above the \$2 mark. However, a reaction set in by the afternoon and the dollar recovered to just above Monday's closing levels. The Bank of England was thought to have been in the market in the morning buying up dollars for the reserves in an attempt to curb sterling's rise. Countries whose currencies have risen strongly against the dollar in the last month are worried about the effect of this on their international competitiveness. The pound, however, has remained fairly stable against an average of currencies since it rose slightly last month and there does not seem to have been much intervention. Sterling's effective rate index, measured against a basket of currencies rose to 62.9 per cent from 62.5 per cent yesterday morning, but later came back to close unchanged from Monday at 62.7 per cent. After touching a two and a half-half year high against the dollar of \$2.0035, the pound closed 70 pence down on the day at \$1.974. The Swiss franc was again at the centre of market attention yesterday. It soared to 1.547 to the dollar at one point, a rise of 2.4 per cent from its close on Monday. Some analysts reported substantial intervention by the Swiss National Bank, which was partly responsible for the subsequent reversal in the flight from dollars. Reports that the central bank called an emergency meeting yesterday with the three "big commercial" banks also helped the dollar. New curbs on speculative inflows into Switzerland are widely expected in the exchange markets. The most worrying aspect of this for Swiss exporters is that the franc has reached record highs against the Deutsche mark as well as against the United States dollar. In Frankfurt the Swiss franc closed at DM1.955, while the yen peaked at 181.6 yen to the dollar and closed at 184.7 yen. The dollar's plunge early yesterday sent the gold price up to a record \$216.1 an ounce from \$214.1 on Monday, it later eased to \$213.1 an ounce in London. In New York the dollar closed firmer, with sterling losing almost 2 cents on the day at \$1.9910.

Merchant bank move by Lloyds

By Ronald Pullen
Lloyds Bank has belatedly joined the trend among clearing banks to establish a comprehensive merchant banking service. With the announcement yesterday of Mr David Horne to spearhead its corporate finance, Lloyds will complement its existing range of merchant banking services at present located within the international division. Mr Horne is to join the board of Lloyds Bank International but will work closely with LBT's merchant banking division and the parent bank, with particular responsibility for the development of corporate finance advisory services in the United Kingdom, including advice on public floatations, takeovers and mergers, and capital structures. An accountant with 20 years' experience in merchant banking, Mr Horne, joined S. G. Warburg in 1958 in the corporate finance department, just at a time when the bank became involved in a succession of celebrated takeover battles masterminded by Mr Henry Grunfeld and Mr Frank Smith. In 1970 he moved to Williams & Glyn's to head its embryonic merchant banking side. The Lloyds move highlights the different approaches the clearing banks have adopted to compete with the City's big merchant banks. While all can claim that their existing activities provide a degree of expertise in most merchant banking services, like, medium-term finance, leasing and export finance, the one major gap all have felt is the provision of advice on corporate finance. Midland purchased Samuel Mouton to fill the void, National Westminster developed County Bank. Barclays brought in the well-known merchant banker, Mr Charles Ball, from Kleinwort Benson, while after a year because of policy differences with the parent bank. Mr Norman Jones, deputy chief executive at Lloyds, said most of the bank's customers had their existing activities which had already been recognized in the establishment of an international merchant banking service within LBI some nine months ago. Mr Horne, whose background in merchant and clearing banks should help him avoid the pitfalls Mr Ball encountered at Barclays, said he would be concentrating his effort on medium-sized corporate customers at the start. Financial Editor, page 17

US headlines currency's plight

Today, on the seventh anniversary of President Nixon's decision to end the convertibility of the dollar into gold, the American currency and dollar are again capturing the headlines, as bankers and foreign exchange traders speculate on whether the American authorities will act to arrest the slump in the dollar's value. Pressure on the authorities to take some decisions is mounting as public concern mounts over the dollar's problems. Yesterday's steep fall was the lead item in morning radio news bulletins here, while the newspapers also focused on the event. The Washington Post ran a headline today declaring: "Dollar plunges as gold prices soar" while the Wall Street Journal noted: "Dollar plunges, stirring rebukes over United States role." One Wall Street trader said yesterday the dollar performance in the markets "was one of the worst in the dollar's history," but he noted that the dollar rallied slightly across the board in market dealings today. A trader at the European American bank in New York said most dealers appear fairly pessimistic now about the dollar's future course. Disenchantment with the dollar is in part reflected in the record level bids received today by the General Services Administration, which is auctioning 300,000 ounces of gold for the United States Treasury. The government agency reported that a total of 19 bids had been received with major institutions such as the Swiss Bank Corporation offering to buy a total of 112,000 ounces at between \$211.04 to \$213.23 per ounce and Dresdner Bank offering to buy over 200,000 ounces at between \$213.41 and \$213.73 per ounce. Speculation on Wall Street of possible government moves to aid the dollar was fuelled by the meeting in Washington of the Federal Reserve System's Open Market Policy Committee. Mr Alan Teck, a highly respected currency adviser, at

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Trading starts on Sept 18

ve new option stocks
In the five new London traded market is expected to September 18. The expand the original 10 15 has been expected time. e stocks will be RTZ, Imperial Group, BOC International and EMI. the committee's choice from the sector, was dropped in f Imps, because of a ion over the BAT decision.

World Bank design for restructuring trade

By Melvyn Wastlake
A clear warning against the dangers of the present drift to trade protectionism and the threat this poses both to global economic growth and the containment of inflation, is given this morning in a new analysis of medium-term international trends undertaken by the World Bank. It suggests that Britain and other major trading nations face several years of industrial change as the developing countries become increasingly more competitive in many areas of production. New policies are urgently needed to help bring about the changes in industrial structure that this will involve, the World Bank says. It sees the industrialized nations expanding a little less rapidly during the 10 years 1975-1985, than during the 1960s, but a good deal faster than during the early 1970s. The performance of the very poorest nations is projected to improve substantially if they receive enough foreign aid, while economic growth among the middle income developing countries is expected to decline a little. In a first of what is intended to be a series of annual progress reports on the international community's efforts to accelerate economic development, and reduce poverty, the World Bank says that even on the most favourable assumptions the numbers of people in "absolute poverty" will only fall by a quarter between now and the end of the century. By the year 2000, there could be 600 million people living in absolute poverty, compared with 800 million today. Its analysis, called World Development Report, 1978, emphasizes the interlocking nature of the world economy, and the consequent repercussions on economic growth and inflation of restrictions imposed by Europe and North America on the exports of developing countries. The employment that is preserved in the home markets of the industrialized nations by limiting imports from the Third World is offset by the loss of employment in industries that export to the developing countries. The amount of employment lost in this way has often been underestimated, but it is large and growing.

Third World purchases have played a significant role in helping to support trade during the current recession. Exports of manufactured goods from the industrialized nations to the developing countries amounted to \$125,000m in 1975, the reverse flow was only \$26,000m. Thus, the World Bank says, limitations on imports from developing countries can be self-defeating because they put at risk much larger flows in the reverse direction. According to World Bank projections, the growth of foreign aid to the very poorest nations would need to be 5 per cent a year in real terms, between 1975 and 1985. Table, page 16

Hadon Young contract

Hadon Young has won a £3m contract to provide mechanical and electrical services at the new Baring Brothers offices in Bishopsgate, City.

Expansion continues at G. H. Downing

acts from the statement of the Chairman, D. S. Hartley, for the year to 31st March 1978: re-tax profits of £1,715,268 - not unsatisfactory in a difficult year. 2,823,706 invested in new plant, kilns and buildings. steel making recession made it a difficult year for factories. Roofing tile sales remained buoyant. the electrical engineering division had a record year with turnover nearly 80% up. the Dutch subsidiary had another very good year. the high demand enabled us to export bricks from the U.K. current year going reasonably well.

How the markets moved

Rises		Falls	
Allmatt Ltd	10p to 234p	Dillon D.	19p to 30p
Anglo Am Coal	20p to 715p	Ellis & Everard	7p to 9p
Ayer Hizam	20p to 410p	Furness Withy	11p to 251p
Citron Int	7p to 40p	Leslie	4p to 63p
De Beers' Dfd	7p to 452p	Libanon	32p to 817p
Havillars L.	6p to 72p		
Invergoron Ltd	7p to 147p		
Killinghall	5p to 304p		
MIM Hides		Ldn Ltd Inv	
Reliance Knit	8p to 222p	Milard Dns	8p to 183p
Saint Piran	3p to 51p	NEIS & Allen	14p to 183p
Sekers Int	7p to 62p	Oil Exploration	8p to 158p
Standard Chart	7p to 435p	Winkchank	55p to 815p
Underver	6p to 574p	York Trailer	3p to 55p
Via Te	3p to 52p		
Vitroplant	up to 156p		

THE POUND

Bank		Bank	
Australia \$	1.77	1.71	
Austria Sch	29.00	27.00	
Belgium Fr	64.25	60.75	
Canada \$	2.33	2.26	
Denmark Kr	11.02	10.52	
Finland Mkk	8.33	7.98	
France Fr	8.65	8.25	
Germany Dm	3.79	3.79	
Greece Dr	71.75	67.75	
Hongkong \$	9.70	9.25	
Italy Lira	166.00	158.00	
Japan Y	388.00	363.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.35	4.12	
Norway Kr	10.50	10.05	
Portugal Esc	89.00	84.00	
S Africa Rd	1.99	1.86	
Spain Pes	153.00	146.00	
Sweden S	8.96	8.65	
Switzerland Fr	3.28	3.05	
US \$	2.05	1.99	
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.25	36.25	

Green Shield printer goes into liquidation

Press and Post, which printed stamp saving books for Green Shield, went into liquidation yesterday with debts of £386,000. "This reflects the changing policy of various major companies," Mr John Williams, a director, said. Creditors at a meeting in the City were told that the estimated deficiency to creditors was £102,391. Mr Williams and another director bought Press and Post eight months ago for £20,000. In the year before they took over, the company had a turnover of about £500,000 with Green Shield as its main customer. In the period since then to June 17 the turnover with Green Shield had been only £51,000. "It was vital to replace the contracting market with new customers and in our view we were on the way to doing so," Mr Williams said. However, cash ran out, leaving no alternative but liquidation despite the prospect of increased turnover. The meeting appointed Mr Pat Granville White, of Booth White, and Mr C. J. B. Brown, of Fine Press, as joint liquidators.

DUFAY BITUMASTIC LTD.

Group Interim Statement for the six months ended on 30th June 1978

The unaudited results for the six months ended on 30th June 1978 were as under. Taxation provisions have been estimated. Unaudited figures for the six months ended 30th June 1977 and audited figures for the 12 months ended 31st December 1977 are set out for comparative purposes.

	Unaudited Six months 30.6.78	Unaudited Six months 30.6.77	Audited 12 months 31.12.77
External sales	£'000 4,238	£'000 4,891	£'000 9,615
Profit before taxation	375	378	691
Taxation	195	161	306
Profit after taxation	180	147	295
Dividends	67	63	135
Profit retained	113	82	139
Earnings per share	1.62p	1.32p	2.66p

The increase in profitability of some 21%, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, is due entirely to the policy adopted by your Company in pursuing other outlets for more technically sophisticated types of surface coatings. There has been no uplift in the demand for pipeline enamels but indications of a return to activity in this line are encouraging. With the repeated modifications to the Highmarn plant, now fully completed, your Company is well placed to take full advantage of an increase in demand for its products when it occurs.

It is anticipated that the results for the second half of the current year will prove to be satisfactory.

Following the reduction in the basic rate of income tax from 34% to 33% and in keeping with the Chairman's Statement which formed part of the 1977 Report and Accounts, your Directors have declared a further dividend in respect of the year ended 31st December 1977 of 0.012494p Ordinary share.

Your Directors have also declared an interim dividend of 0.587505p (0.583333p-1977) per Ordinary share on the capital as increased by the 1 for 5 scrip issue of 15th May 1976. Payment of these dividends totalling 0.6p will be made on 16th October 1978 to shareholders on the register on 11th September 1978.

C. ATTWOOD
Chairman

H. DOWNING & CO. LIMITED
Manufacturers of Clay Products, Refractories, Limestone Aggregates, Electrical Power Engineers.
BRAMPTON HILL, NEWCASTLE, STAFFS.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Compensation sums for Hawker

ide rules will be running over GEC this morning to see what can be drawn for their nationalization. Siddeley's £60m agreement. The award from Hawker, however, is that on which compensation was agreed. It is a dangerous indeed to draw too much from its negotiations. As Hawker's deal suggests, the formula is being flexibly interpreted. It must weigh in GEC's and Vickers' Conning loan repayments of Hawker has now got about £110m in arrears which were earning pre-tax at an annualized rate of some £26m in the first four months' performance. That represents a quite adequate earnings ratio of eight and a half. Hawker cautions that, because of lags, such calculations can be mis-

impact on Hawker's balance sheet is tough, however. Following the loan into its last accounts showed net £99m. Since then it has spent about £100m on a new agreement should cash balance to £130m or so. Question is what Hawker is to do with it. Its own capital expenditure is ear-end commitments totalling £74m in 1977 spending of only £30.4m (the £15.9m Gardner acquisition). has to be seen in the context of the flow of £96.7m last year, and it is likely that internal requirements need internally generated cash. The would therefore seem to be either to some compensation money to them, which few would be prepared to, or to pursue further the acquisition programme. Hawker has already d interest in the United States, but evidently no hurry. Even without e Hawker should achieve a modest per cent rise in pre-tax profits this

ant banking

Is moves

ou marry the free-wheeling, people-style of a merchant bank with the ebullient approach of a retail it. I suspect, a consensus that clearing banks have really solved al-satisfaction. d was first off the tee with the of Samuel Mootagu, a fully fledged banking operation, which in the oved rather expensive when all was really buying was people power edge by the exodus of middle man-early on. Mootagu was not easy ate into the clearing structure. Westminster's approach has been low key with the progress of its bank subsidiary concentrated on concerns rather than the big ticket t its peers have tended to home

sight Lloyds has chosen a fairly route in attaining a merchant bank-ality. It has been trying for some ape its confreres but has, quite schewed simply taking in a recog-porate finance man. In taking on rne and racking him on to the nal side it is presumably hoping complement its existing merchant perations. Certainly when it comes

to placing power in Eurobond markets or project finance the clearers can provide their merchant subsidiaries with a head start when it comes to the resources to hack them up and merchant banks will ignore these developments at their peril.

Smith & Nephew

Justifying the premium rating

At the operating level Smith & Nephew's interim profits increase was a modest 9.3 per cent to £9.6m. But lower interest charges, a surprisingly high exchange gain contribution of £330,000, since eliminated by adverse currency movements, and a substantial increase in the contribution from associates pushed the pre-tax figure up by 25 per cent to £9.5m. So the growth of the past two years, in which profits increased by 19 per cent and 23.3 per cent respectively, is being maintained at £21m for this year, representing a 21 per cent improvement, now looks reasonably assured.

This is sound stuff and amply justifies the return to a premium rating in the shares up to the last year end as the Gala Cosmetics mistakes faded into the background. Even beyond this year chinks in the armour are hard to find.

Moreover, S & N remains usefully exposed to any international economic upturn and its mainstream products have also some way to go in penetrating the developed markets. Specifically, the United States, currently dominated in S & N's field by Johnson & Johnson, remains a challenge now that the cosmetics problems over there seem to be disappearing.

On the financial front, the balance sheet is becoming less of a problem as some conversion of loan stock has reduced the year-end gearing of 52 per cent to 46 per cent, though there will be a cash outflow this year due to a relatively high level of capital spending.

For the shares this is a steady rather than an exciting prospect, helped by the fact that S & N will be able to raise its dividend by more than 10 per cent under the new legislation. The 15 per cent increase at the interim stage indicates a full year payout of 4.2p gross, leaving the shares at 77p on a prospective yield of 5.4 per cent. But a fully-taxed prospective p/e ratio of 12 is enough of a premium for now.

Nottingham Manufacturing

Below market expectations

Nottingham Manufacturing's interim profits rise of almost a tenth to just under £5m failed to excite the market yesterday, the shares falling 6p to 128p. Having been impressed by NM's solid growth during two years in which conditions for knitwear generally were extremely poor, analysts had been hoping for something better now that the trading background has improved.

NM's trading profits slightly outpaced a sales gain of 13 per cent to over £2m, but investment income on the group's £26m cash and gilts board fell back 6 per cent to £969,000 in line with lower interest rates.

Nottingham's eolismic management leaves analysts in the dark about trading developments but it might be assumed that the Lancaster Carpets division may be to blame for the shortfall from outside hopes of up to £5.5m.

While knitwear sales have started to lift off on the back of higher consumer spending carpet-makers have reported extremely tough conditions. However, according to other groups like Carrington Virela carpet business has recently shown signs of picking up and it is perhaps too early to write down estimates of perhaps £16.5m this year from NM compared with last year's £13.6m.

A prospective full-taxed p/e of 8.5 and likely yield of 4.2 per cent, assuming a conventional increase in the payment, puts NM at a significant premium although under new dividend rules the group may have the scope for an increase of nearer 20 per cent.

A sharp rise in rates, from about 25 to 35 per cent in the past few days, has sent hopes rising and adrenalin flowing through the tanker market in a most unaccustomed way.

At this level a big modern tanker can cover running costs and possibly make a small profit; so ships are breaking out of lay-up and others speeding up to catch this sudden welcome breeze after four years of largely uninterrupted doldrums.

Already two big owners—Niarchos and A. P. Moller—have decided to break about 1 million tons out of lay-up and others have indicated immediate willingness to add a further 1 to 2 million tons, given suitable charter. Both oil companies and independent operators give orders to increase speed. Shell have brought their last idle ship, a chartered 400,000 tonner, back into service.

What will it all add up to, and how long will it last? There have been flurries like this before, notably in the winters of 1976 and 1977, which lasted a few weeks and collapsed.

This, one has perhaps a

slightly more convincing flavour about it—so far it could be that through a fortuitous combination of circumstances, charterers have been caught merely temporarily on the hop, and the market will be back to depressant disequilibrium by the autumn.

The main factors behind the rate rise seem to be: (1) Talk of an interim Opec rise in the price of oil in advance of that scheduled for January; and even of a complete oil embargo to influence next month's Arab-Israeli meetings.

The latter is evidently discounted on the market by the fact that many charterers are taking ships for two round voyages, lasting till the end of the year. The former is anybody's guess, with the usual hawks and doves in the Opec camp still locked in argument.

(2) The oil companies, having built up stocks late last year as a hedge against a price rise, were running them down again in the first half of this year, to cut inventory costs, and are now moving into a resocking cycle again.

Michael Bailey

(3) Japan is going ahead with its plan to store oil in 20 very large crude carriers (vics), taking about 5 million tons off the market for two years. The first ten have already been chartered for September and the second will follow in October.

(4) Conservation policies in the United States do not seem to be biting, fully, and earlier predictions of 8 million barrels of imported long-haul crude are being revised upwards to 9 million for the end of the year.

All this is making place against a background in which some impact has been made on the overall surplus. Between 7 and 8 million tons is thought to have been withdrawn from scrapping in the first five months of this year, and the overall surplus has probably dropped from about 100 million

tons last year to 70 to 80 million, half laid up and half steaming.

This is still a great deal, but of course only a proportion of it can be quickly available. It costs around \$500,000 to bring a vic out of lay-up, and owners who did so too hastily 18 months ago for single voyages earning around \$750,000 found they had burned their fingers.

At Worldscale 35 a single voyage from the Gulf to Rotterdam yields about \$1.5m however, and for an owner who has been keeping his ships in good fettle in lay-up, and particularly those laid up reasonably close to the Gulf as in Greece, these rates are attractive, especially for consecutive voyages.

The leading oil groups, who have plenty of slack to take up in the form of 16-knot ships steaming at 12 knots (cutting consumption from about 150 to 90 tons a day and saving around \$200,000 in bunkers on a Gulf-Europe voyage), are unlikely to be much in the market.

But if all the above factors hold good, demand from the smaller companies and independents could hold rates up for some months—provided too much tonnage does not come out of lay-up to spoil it. Leading oil companies are keeping a stiff upper lip for the time being. "We are at a loss to know why there is this sudden flurry," says Shell. "We see it as a normal market fluctuation and are certainly not in the market for tonnage ourselves." BP are "watching the situation with interest, but see no reason to change our long-term view: that it will be about 1985 before the market stabilizes. Meanwhile we are doing quite a bit of speeding up of our fleet."

Short-term fluctuations around a depressed norm is the prognosis for the tanker market, so long as it has this great surplus hanging over it, and it is difficult to see why this particular fluctuation should not be brought to an end, if not earlier, by a sharp rise in the price of Opec oil on January 1.

John Earle

How difficult is it to make an honest lira?

Rome. The list is formidable—almost an *Almanach de Gotha* of Italy's economic establishment.

Perhaps the figure best known abroad is Signor Michele Sindona, the Anglo-American financier, who from his New York hotel suite is fighting an Italian extradition application to face charges of "fraudulent bankruptcy" arising out of the collapse of his empire in 1974.

Then there is Signor Camillo Crotti, former chairman of Finmeccanica, the engineering and metalworking wing of the vast state-owned conglomerate Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale, who also fled abroad in February 1976, to avoid arrest in the Lockheed corruption case.

Ex-Senator Graziano Verzotto was last heard of in the Lebanon instead of serving a 41-year sentence for embezzlement while president of the Sicilian region's mining and minerals agency ENMS.

The whereabouts are unknown of Signor Giuseppe Arcuoli, an elderly former Christian Democrat politician, who in addition to being president of the association of banks Assobancaria was for many years director general of the state banks. He disappeared in February when a warrant was issued by a magistrate investigating the affairs of Italcasse.

On the other hand Signor Raffaele Ursini, head, until last month, of the Liquigas liquid gas group, was a magistrate in Reggio Calabria where a magistrate is examining allegations that government funds allocated as incentives for building factories were misused for other purposes.

Among others who have spent brief periods under arrest pending investigation of charges against them are Signor Vincenzo Cazzaniga, former chairman of Esso Italiana (in connection with alleged payouts and irregularities by oil companies), Signor Mario Barone, former managing director of Banco di Roma (in connection with the Sindona case) and Signor Gino Sferza, former chairman of Montedison's retail store subsidiary Standa (in connection with payouts to obtain licences for supermarkets).

The ways of Italian justice are complex and seldom swift. Signor Giorgio Valerio, former chairman of Montedison in the 1960s, was one of 36 charged this spring in a case involving payments to political parties and the supply of radio sets to the Army.

Hearings are going ahead at a slow pace against Signor Mario Genghini, ex-chairman of the big property company, Società Generale Immobiliare, and Signor Enzo Badioli, president of the central institute of rural banks, ICCREA, accused



Camillo Crotti (left), fled the country; Michele Sindona, financier.

of currency violations in business affairs with Canada.

Though the consequences of the Lockheed scandal are past in most other countries, the trial still goes ahead—and will resume after a summer recess to be in the interests of his defence. But in practice the notification can be damaging.

Such has been the case with Signor Nino Rovelli, head of the Chemical Group Società Italiana Resine-Romianca, who was put under investigation last winter by a magistrate looking into irregularities in the use of government incentives. In June the magistrate decided there was no case to answer. But some of the mud stuck, and Signor Rovelli's group has had to contend with loss of con-

Another frequent theme is that of illegal currency exports, for which two well-known Rome building contractors and a leading pasta industrialist have in separate cases been found guilty.

The question that comes to mind, is why so many prominent if not eminent businessmen and financiers should get entangled with the law. Are Italian entrepreneurs for some reason more dishonest than their colleagues elsewhere? A glance at history shows there has been no shortage of economic and financial scandals in the century since Italy's unification.

The superficial explanation for the rash of prosecutions is that the rules of the game have been made more severe. Legislation on the export of currency and the ownership of assets abroad has been tightened. Tax evasion is under attack. The judiciary, particularly some younger magistrates, are more solicitous about prosecuting for economic crime than they used to be.

Some eager young magistrates, however, have come in for criticism on the grounds that they are tilting at windmills, and that either inexperience or sometimes left-wing political emotions lead them to



Camillo Crotti (left), fled the country; Michele Sindona, financier.

start investigations on too flimsy grounds.

Under Italian procedure, a potential defendant has to be notified when an investigation starts, or possible charges against him. This is intended to be in the interests of his defence. But in practice the notification can be damaging.

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fidence among creditors and suppliers in addition to the difficulties prevalent throughout the Italian chemical industry.

Looking deeper, however, the answer may be that public opinion has become more aware of these issues in recent years and that this awareness has coincided with the first crumbling of Christian Democrat power after a monopoly since the last war in the face of advances by the left. Cards have been uncovered which once it would have been possible to keep close to the chest.

Symptomatic of this has been the resignation forced by the Communists of President Giovanni Leone, in the wake of a press campaign against him and his family for their business and taxation affairs.

Nevertheless, businessmen complain that laws and regulations are still so involved and bound by bureaucratic red tape as to make it virtually impossible for a business to be dynamic and earn an honest profit without cutting corners. Even the smallest authorization or permit from the authorities needs "a push" from a friend in a ministry. If it is to come through in a useful period of time.

As for bigger operations, the experience of British Petroleum with its animal feedstuff plant in Sardinia is a warning—permission to build with a promise of concessional aid was given in 1972. But by 1978 no authorization for commercial

production had been granted so BP cut its loss and liquidated. It is a system which tempts people, if not to economic crime, at least to mismanagement. It also has built-in resistance to reform. For what ruling politician wants a situation, particularly in fields such as concessional aid, in which regulations are clear and automatic, instead of complex and under the discretion of ministers or officials.

The latest legislation of the Andreotti government continues along these lines, as shown by a complex law on rents which is inoperable to most house dwellers, and by a Bill for rescuing firms in difficulties through appointment of a commissioner—at the discretion however of the Minister of Industry.

Signor Umberto Agnelli, managing director of Fiat, and Signor Ubaldo Allodi, president of the Milan bourse, were both elected to Parliament at the last election on the Christian Democrat ticket with evident ambitions for reform in the business and financial fields, but appear so far to have made little impression on the party.

The prospects are, then, for further economic and financial scandals in the future. For those concerned they will not be entirely unwelcome. There is a saying: *Chiodo schiaccia chiodo*—a new nail beats out the old—enabling the old scandal to be safely put out of the public mind and forgotten.

Business Diary: Bread and circuses • Hickory, dickory ...

European Commission, gives us quite a few fly, is making it partial business to keep comedians in steady

ed by the lack of "resting" actors and forming artists, the n has ordered a the difficult of ness by an indepen-archer, Marie-Made- rust has come back into showing, for bar Germany has lost sicians in 20 years, n France the number ions dropped by 25 between 1968 and -ity artists fared t with nearly half ve profession to the d. ort also identifies a problem in European meaced by unfair n from the Bastero nries where circus state employees and from long periods r. Western artists suffer financially, t says, but can also out of practice. this is considered a utter.

ust's report, which sympathetically re- Brussels, suggests EC should interfere e activities of and agents; help set alized employment r artists; extend can job placement the artistic profes- at out of work per- ight get bookings in g countries; and e statistical inform-



Ab, Daley m'boy. Congratulations, and would you mind bunging the medals in the old gold reserves for a while ... Common-wealth Games gold medalist supreme Daley Thompson (left) and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Denis Healey.

ation, since "available data is not reliable nor kept up to date".

Mrs Jennifer Wiggins, in the Business News correspondence on metrication, raised the spectre of decimalized time. How many hours would there be

Lacey, scoffed: "The idea of the 100 second minute is a joke which was played out some while ago. The whole world agrees on one definition of hours and minutes and days and there is therefore no case for change."

But he warned, Loony as the idea may sound, schemes for its implementation were published by serious journals such as *Nature*, *The New Scientist* and *io Engineering* in the 1960s, and now it has been warmly espoused by the Canadian Metric Association.

I am grateful to A. P. Whitlock, of the Dozenal Society of Great Britain, for a copy of the Canadians' Metric Fact Sheet No 5. Whitlock, I need hardly add, suspects a world-wide conspiracy.

The Canadians propose replacing the traditional second with a "rema", 0.364 of the old second. The calendar day would be divided into 10 "decimal hours" or "chroas", 1,000 decimal minutes called "centichroas" and 100,000 remas.

This, they say, would get rid of "the unwieldy Babylonian system of numbers" which spoils the metric scheme of things because our time units are still based on the sexagesimal counting system of ancient Sumerian priests.

True, they say, their scheme "should at this time be regarded only as a proposal for a possible future improvement"; but their conclusion, after outlining the advantages, is more ominous: "Decimalization of the time system is the next logical development."

"Professional changemakers," Whitlock says, "who create their authority out of nothing,

must continually seek new worlds to alter."

America's Federal Reserve is testing a new security system involving a code that some computer scientists say might take 17,000 years and a fortune to break. The Fed, unsurprisingly, is not saying much, but Business Diary has some details.

In three of the Fed's 12 national reserve banks tests of new security systems are going ahead. The Fed will not say which three banks. The tests are aimed at determining whether a more secure transmission system can be developed for Fed payments of all kinds and for confidential projections by the Fed's staff of things like future currency rates.

One of the systems being tested has been developed by IBM and it can only be activated by someone who knows a 56-digit code key. The computer coding system will be attached to the Fed's telephone lines to garble telephone conversations so completely that it would be impossible for anyone to be able to tap the phone line.

Shoe retailers are planning to save shoe leather for people with big feet. One of the proposals for improved customer services which multiple shoe retailers have offered the Prices Secretary, Roy Hattersley, is that in future their shops should maintain a register of extreme sizes, so that customers with unusual feet can quickly be directed to a branch stocking a replacement pair.

Ross Davies

DALE

A 'year' of solid advancement.

Leonard Dale, Chairman, says:

"It has been a successful year for Dale Electric International. The entry of Hauchin to the Dale Group has proved as positive as anticipated. Generating set markets in the U.K. and overseas remain buoyant and the company is generally improving its market shares. The outstanding order book stands at £20.8m, an increase of 51 per cent, over the equivalents of 12 months ago.

Significant product and market developments are expected in the current year. Output is at record levels, even exceeding growth targets. Investments in new factories, projected at £1 million, for Houchin, Etskine and Conyers will generate greater growth for subsidiaries."

Leonard Dale, MBE

HIGHLIGHTS ... 16 MONTHS ENDING 30 APRIL 1978.		
	16 MONTHS TO APRIL 30th 1978	12 MONTHS TO JANUARY 1st 1977
TURNOVER	£ 22,608,000	£12,302,000
PROFIT (Pre-tax)	£ 3,430,000	£2,135,000
DIVIDEND (per share)	3.6688p	2.4392p

Copies of the Annual Report will be available from the Company Secretary.

DALE
Dale Electric International Ltd.
Electricity Buildings, Fife, Yorkshire YO14 9PJ. Telephone: 0723 514141.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

A chance to reflect before 'new time'

The institutional and pension fund managers, until recently active buyers in the equity market, took a step back yesterday to appraise the situation. And, without their large appetite to mop up any shares coming into the market, equities tended to drift easier.

The FT Ordinary share index, having dipped 2.9 by lunchtime, recovered part of the loss during the afternoon, ending at 511.2, with a drop of 2.3 on the day.

Rank Organisation slipped 3p to 262p yesterday, but they are 10p to the good since the turn of the month. One or two brokers recommend them on the view that the new management is turning round the non-Xerox interests; and that the recent settlement of legal squabbles between Xerox and IBM has a load of worry. So there could be a rebuilding of the old United States stock in the shares, now a lot less than 10 per cent. A pound strong against the dollar could be an added attraction to Americans.

Although prices sagged in places as traders took their profits, there was little business, with bargains marked languishing at just over 5,000 and market men anticipate an upturn towards the end of the week as "new time" buying gets underway tomorrow.

The gilt market shrugged off Monday's disappointing trade figures and, at the longer end, gained around an eighth to a quarter, to rally back to Friday's overnight level.

Trading was light among shorter dated gilts, which after dipping around three sixteenths, ended unchanged on the day. Today's money-supply figures, which are not expected to be

good, have already been discounted, while dealers are not anticipating a cut in MLR tomorrow.

Any United States steps to support the dollar could result in higher American interest rates, so few market men expect a downturn on this side of the Atlantic meantime.

10 leader stocks, ICI at 400p, Courtaulds at 120p, Beecham at 710p and GKN at 282p lost up to 3p, while BATS at 325p, Fisons at 380p, Glaxo at 610p and EMI at 150p held steady.

The unstoppable John Brown added a further 4p to 466p, while Unilever, after figures on Monday, climbed 6p to 574p. In electricals, Tubes eased 2p to 412p in front of figures today, while EMI held steady at 308p. Dale Electric, with disappointing final figures, shed 6p to 171p.

By contrast, Smith & Nephew results were deemed satisfactory and the shares rose 1p to 77p.

Hawker Siddeley were suspended at 244p in front of

nationalization compensation terms which, when announced, helped Vickers improve 3p to 187p.

Prior to the announcement, nationalization hopes at Hawker offshoots added 7p to Carlton Industries at 235p and Invergordon at 147p and 5p to London Merchant Securities at 115p.

Elsewhere in distillers Arthur Bell, with figures next month, climbed 4p to 294p, and Tomatin added 3p to 131p.

The weakness of the dollar against sterling finally hit the insurance broking sector which, in relative terms, is nearing its "high" and lopped 4p to 5p from Sedgwick Forbes at 465p. Alexander Howden at 164p and C. E. Heath at 290p. The interim reporting season starts next month, and although these figures are unlikely to be too badly hit by the relative strength of the pound, analysts anticipate some cautionary statement coming from the group chairmen which could depress share prices in this sector.

The composites, which are not quite so exposed, lost a few pence with Legal & General at 176p, Pearl at 256p and the Prudential at 167p.

BSR with large overseas business slipped 4p to 100p.

Trading news triumphed 3p from York Tractor at 55p and 6p from Nottingham Manufacturing at 128p while Alcan UK shed 9p to 154p following a first-half profits setback. A 16 per cent profits upturn at Wiggins Construct left the shares unmoved at 34p but Louis Newmark added 2p to 200p and Reliance Knitwear firmed 3p to 51p.

A Monopolies Commission reference to the Supply Roadside Advertising Services lopped 14p from Mills & Allen at 183p and 5p from London Provincial Poster at 195p, while Barker & Dobson eased 3p to 14p after news that the Oakshotts subsidiary is to be closed.

Speculative buying continued to boost Bourne & Hollingsworth, 8p higher at 266p, but Vinten lost 5p to 210p on

profit-taking, while in shipping Furness Withy shed 9p to 231p after a bid denial by European Ferries, a penny higher at 134p. Eustling Gibson eased 2p to 122p.

In tin, the firm metal price added 20p to Ayer Hitam at 410p and 4p to St Piran at 62p. Bishopsgate eased 2p to 110p, failing to benefit from the scheme to merge with Impala.

The stronger bullion price did little for gold shares where West Driefontein lost 11 to

Storm cones have been gathering over Hambros Bank ever since its shipping commitment took a turn for the worse. The shares, however, have picked up since the chairman's remarks at the annual meeting that an early settlement on its shipping loans was expected. There is now talk in banking circles that the bank is keen to increase its balance-sheet, which suggests that the shipping loan, which could have cut reserves including inner reserves by around a sixth, is not viewed quite as seriously inside the bank as outside.

228. President Stern shed 50p to 110 and Consolidated Goldfields slipped 4p to 189p.

Banks were dull, with the High Street clearers losing between 4p and 8p, while oils were also down on the day.

Equity turnover on August 14 was 559,154m (1,332 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, GEC, BP, Barclays, Bowater, Nottingham Manufacturing, Birmah, De Beers, BAT, dtd, Beecham, Marks & Spencer, Shell, Royal Insurance, Distillers, Invergordon, Furness Withy and Ultramar.

A poor second after Alcan's recent UK stock market debut

By Peter Wainwright

It is disconcerting that Alcan United Kingdom's debut in June as a stock listed over here should be followed so swiftly by a collapse in profits, but at least business is on the mend, or at least it is hoped that this is the case. Meanwhile, the shares have not come to much harm.

Back in June they were around 160p and yesterday they finished 9p down at 154p. Here, the yield on the indicated 15p gross dividend is a useful 10 per cent, and at half-time the group declares the promised 3p a share interim payment.

The switchback nature of Alcan's profits is shown by the dive in pre-tax profits in the six months to June 30 from £14.7m to £3.1m. However, sales held reasonably steady at £136m against £137.5m. Earnings a share fell from 18.2p to 5p.



Mr D. A. J. Pinn, chairman of Alcan Aluminium (UK).

Profits plummeted suddenly than anticipated. Alcan is in the sort of business where change is sudden. It had pre-tax losses in four of the last eight years but no profits of £10m in 1976.

In the second quarter many were better. Sales in the second three months were 14 per cent ahead of those in the first quarter, and pre-tax profits the same as in the first three months of 1977.

There are hopes of profits £14m or so this year, but it depends on whether a tentative recovery in demand strength in the second half year, and whether prices will be put up in its wake. The fear is a stock may act as a black recovery, but apart, the share will be used to reduce the unrestricted dividend, a scope for the first two years after listing.

Halifax BS assets top £7,000m

Total assets of the Halifax Building Society at the end of the six-month period to July 31, increased by £92m to £7,001m. This is the first time that any building society has passed the £7 billion mark.

During this period the society lent £504.8m of which £757m was advanced on 79,000 new mortgages and £47.8m on 33,000 loans to existing borrowers for home improvements. Offers advanced, but not completed, at the same date amounted to £351.7m, while liquid funds were 18.6 per cent, compared with 19.7 per cent as at January 31.

of 4.6p gross is proposed, making a total of 6.85p, against 6.06p.

Wheeler's buys restaurant freeholds

Mr Bernard Walsh, chairman of Wheeler's Restaurants, which owns 13 oyster and fish restaurants in London and Brighton, reports that the group has bought a further three restaurant freeholds. In his annual statement, he reports: "When our restaurant leases run out we are forced to face enormous revisions in rent." The board intends to pursue the policy of buying the freeholds of the group's restaurants and properties as and when they become available. The directors hope for a further rise in profits in the current year.

New-look Reliance shows its paces

A 9.5 per cent rise in second-half profits has taken Reliance Knitwear Group to a record £326,000 for the year to April 30—an annual rise of 5.8 per cent. Turnover went up 28 per cent to £14.9m. Earnings a share were 12.19p, against 11.85p, while the dividend is raised from 4.34p gross to 4.8p.

The figures include a small contribution from the new acquisition, Barlaim-Leicester for four months. The board says that the order books are good and the group is diversifying into sports and leisure activities.

Capital & National

Capital & National Trust's gross income increased slightly to £12.4m from £12.1m for the year to July 31, 1978. Revenue attributable to ordinary shareholders went up by 13 per cent to £693,000 and earnings a share are higher at 4.68p, compared with 4.16p. A final dividend

Wiggins Construct

Pre-tax profits of Wiggins Construct, contracting and development group, increased by 16 per cent to £435,000 for the year ending March 31, 1978, with turnover going up to £19.1m from £15.4m. These results include minority profits for 1978 of £5,000—double those of 1977.

The share of an associated company lost the group £9,000, and £34,000 was debited for an extraordinary item. A final dividend of 1.30p was recommended and, with the interim dividend of 1.14p, the total will be 2.44p gross, against 2.39p.

Barrow Hepburn to float NZ offshoot

Barrow Hepburn has completed arrangements to issue 50 per cent of the capital of a new

holding company, Colyer. Watson Holdings, to the New Zealand market.

Barrow, which has an estate company jointly owned with the National Housing Board, will retain a 40 per cent interest in Colyer Watson which exports and processes the Barrow Hepburn will receive £975,000 from the issue of million ordinary shares, which will be used to reduce the group's borrowings.

Colyer Watson directors, forecasting that pre-tax profit will reach £352,000 for 1978.

Lambert Howarth hit by imports

Competition from imported restricted production levels pared profit margins of the year manufacturers. Lambert Howarth, chairman of Cliff Howarth, said in the interim report.

Pre-tax profits were up £141,000 for the six months June 17 from £102,000 for same period last year. A pattern of trading is similar last year and, although turnover is £500,000 lower, the reduction is matched by an increase in finished goods stocks which held against firm contracts delivery before the year-end he said. An interim dividend of 1.42p gross is declared against 1.36p last year.

TEXTILE ALLIANCE Consolidated losses up SHK9.8m to SHK42.1m for the ending March 31, 1978. Growth continued to face difficult trading conditions to the wide textile markets but improvements were recorded the last quarter, said directors.

No change on Weston board

By Our Financial Staff

An attempt by shareholders of machinery manufacturer, Weston Evans, to block the re-appointment of two directors who are currently making a bid for the group was foiled yesterday following a poll vote.

The opposition in the re-appointment of the directors, Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey and Mr Cecil McBride, was led by former director Mrs Lyndsay Hackett-Pain, who accused them of buying shares in Weston Evans without the knowledge of the other directors.

Mr Lacey and Mr McBride are at present making an offer of 124p a share to shareholders through their own private company, Birmingham

Gresham Inv expects record

By Our Financial Staff

Efforts to promote Gresham Investment Trust as a financial backer for small companies are bearing fruit and the group has an above-average number of potential investments under consideration. After a year in which pre-tax profits rose by over 40 per cent to £1m, the group has made a good start to the current year, and expects to achieve record profits.

Earnings a share are up from 2.8p to 3.8p and the dividend from 2.75p gross to 3.02p.

The group has many investments in companies where its interest is more than 20 per cent. If earnings from these had been included, pre-tax profits would have been £1.3m.

Huge cover for Newmark

By Our Financial Staff

Louis Newmark, the electronic and mechanical engineer that also retails watches, did all that it set out to do in the year to April 1 last and the shares rose 2p to 200p, the year's peak.

Turnover rose by 15 per cent to £23.75m and, despite a jump in depreciation from £288,000 to £410,000, pre-tax profits climbed by just over 14 per cent to £2.1m.

In doing so, they beat the £2m forecast with the interim figures last January. That said, profits do appear to be growing more slowly than before.

In the first six months pre-tax profits went ahead by as much as 22 per cent. Mr Robert Harding, director, says that the

watch business is much less seasonal than in years past, but the second half of the year for the group as a whole does seem to reflect new wage awards and holidays.

It could be, then the group will continue to grow briskly. Control gear for the textile industry is still in recession, and could stay that way but the retail business is going ahead and equipment for the aircraft industry is selling well.

The dividend rises by the maximum to 10p a share gross or 6.7p net. Earnings of 33p a share provide massive cover.

The profit increase is put down to lines in the electronic, mechanical and electronic fields and electronics is glamour these days.

Behind this successful man is a woman.

Miss Gillian Lewis to be precise Controller of European operations for The Green Giant Food Company.

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The title of our award changes from last year's "Woman in a Man's World" for a more up-to-date "Business Woman of The Year".

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As a "Friend of the Widow," she'll also receive a bottle of Veuve Clicquot on every birthday.

Nomination forms will appear in The Times Business News from August onwards.

Could you be the one to nominate Gillian's successor and win for yourself some of Clicquot's finest champagne?

THE TIMES
Veuve Clicquot
Business Woman of The Year 1978.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Aug 7. Dealings End, Aug 18. \$ Contango Day, Aug 21. Settlement Day, Aug 30.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 15 00 16 (sharp date) June 2, 1996 original date date June 2, 2000

	Index	Yur.	Exch.	De.
	Latest	Yield	Value	Debt
				Previous
The Times Indus-				
trial Share Index	228.27	4.14	11.56	220.56
Largest Co.	208.94	5.67	10.88	202.57
Smaller Cos.	211.15	5.01	12.25	213.47
Retail Goods	207.39	6.23	13.91	211.06
Consumer Goods	208.94	5.85	10.84	202.57
Health Shares	208.98	5.86	7.85	197.37
Largest Financial				
Shares	217.77	5.99	—	200.32
Largest financial and				
Industrial shares	228.05	6.03	—	220.10
Comm-dit's share	210.68	6.42	11.44	205.70
Gold Mining				
	245.11	7.66	13.36	201.10
Industrial				
Structure	95.24	8.26	—	95.00
Industrial				
preferences	95.10	12.44	—	95.90
Def. War Loan	50.11	11.58	—	50.11
A record of The Times Industrial Share				
Indices is given below —				
	High	Low		
All-Time	224.32	200.06/78.	69.15	12.12/74.
1973	224.32	200.06/78.	244.88	10.02/78.
1974	224.32	200.06/78.	115.53	12.12/74.
1975	377.88	106.70/78.	115.53	12.12/74.
1976	156.09	191.11/75.	81.42	10.02/75.
1977	136.28	191.11/75.	69.15	12.12/74.
1978	190.32	191.11/75.	395.25	21.12/75.

* Flat Interest: held.

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country and/or city style, off Brook
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flower unit. Bath lot. \$30
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